

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 3rd August 1912.

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PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 11th May 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI.				
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly ...	Kanal Lal Das ; Hindu, Karmokar ; age 25 years ...	500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years ; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 43 years ; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Mukherji, v.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years ; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitaisi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Durga Mohan Sen, Baidya, age 35 years ...	600
5	"Banga Janani" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baidya, age 37 years ...	.....
6	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sureschandra Samajpati ; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years ; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	18,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitaisi" ...	Bolepur (Birbhum) ...	Do. ...	Dibakar Banerji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 43 years ...	350
8	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Suri (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years ...	960
9	"Birbhum Vasi" ...	Rampurhat (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years ...	250
10	"Biswadut" ...	Howrah ...	Do. ...	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 36 years.	1,500
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	Do. ...	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years ...	500
12	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha." ...	Bhowanipore ...	Do. ...	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years ...	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 42 years ...	1 100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha." ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	850
15	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily, except on Thursdays.	Hari Das Dutt and Kshetra Nath Sen ...	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	Weekly ...	Satya Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years ...	80
17	"Dacca Praks" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	80
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
19	"Faridpur Hitaisini" ...	Faridpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Baidya, age about 72 years ...	80
20	"Gaud Dut" ...	Malda ...	Weekly ...	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla ...	.....
21	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Rajshahi ...	Do. ...	Kasinuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan, Printer, age 41 years ...	133
22	"Hindusthan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hari Das Dutt ...	1,000
23	"Hitavadi" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakharan Ganes Deushkar	20,000 to 30,000
24	"Islam Rabi" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Maulvi Nazimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
25	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do. ...	.....	About 300
26	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do. ...	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ...	500
27	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kali Sankar Chakravati, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	980
28	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do. ...	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years ...	500
29	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji ; Brahmin ; age 68 year ...	500
30	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	350

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—contd.				
31	"Malda Samachar"	Malda	Weekly	Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years	440
32	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years	About 500
33	"Midnapore Hitaishi"	Midnapore	Do.	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years	200
34	"Medini Bandhab"	Midnapore	Do.	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 44 years	600
35	"Mahamaya" ...	Chinsura	Do.	Hem Sasi Som, Kayastha, age 57 years	150
36	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque	4,000 to 5,000
37	"Muhammadi" ...	Ditto	Do.	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	2,000
38	"Murahidabad Hitaishi."	Saidabad	Do.	Banwari Lal Goswami; Hindu, Brahmin; age 46 years	162
39	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta	Daily	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panchkari Banerjee	1,500 to 3,000
40	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur	Weekly	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years	502
41	"Noakhali Sammilani"	Noakhali	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Das, Kayastha	200
42	"Nihar" ...	Contai	Do.	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years	300
43	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong	Do.	Charu Chandra Ray; Hindu, Kayastha; age 38 years	500
44	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years	300
45	"Pabna Hitaishi"	Pabna	Do.	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 39 years.	100
46	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera	Fortnightly	Munshi Muhammad A. Msan, Musalman, age 53 years	200
47	"Prasun" ...	Katwa	Weekly	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin age 47, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goala, age 41 years.	618
48	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampur	Do.	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years	503
49	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia	Do.	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years	About 700
50	"Rajakti" ...	Do.	Do.	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years	110
51	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol	Do.	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 26 years	500
52	"Rangpur Durpan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Braja Nath Basak; Hindu, Tanti; age 52 years	200
53	"Rangpur Dikprakes"	Ditto ditto ...	Do.	Hara Sarker Meitra, Brahmin, age 66 years	300
54	"Samay" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 58 years	500 to 800
55	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur	Do.	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 38 years	500
56	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta	Do.	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College; Sibnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
57	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	Do.	Ka Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years	300
58	"Suhrid" ...	Perojpur	Fortnightly	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha	300
59	"Sulabh Samachar"	Calcutta	Weekly	Jaladhar Sen, Kayastha, age 51 years	25,000
60	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto	Do.	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,500
61	"Siksha Samachar"	Dacca	Do.	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ... ..	.....
62	"Tippera Guide" ...	Comilla	Do. ... ..	.....	.....
63	"Tippera Hitaishi"	Tippera	Do.	Kamaniya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years	700
64	"Vartabaha" ...	Ranaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin; age 41 years	500 to 600
65	"Viswavarta" ...	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L.; Hindu, Baidya age 36 years.	12,000

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
HINDI.					
66	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya)	Monthly	.....	.....
67	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Weekly	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi	About 4,000
68	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do.	Daily	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi, Hindustani, Brahmin, age 45 ; 2, Panchcowri Banerji, age, 50, Brahmin.	300
69	"Bihar Bandhu"	Patna	Weekly	Mahabir Prasad Banja	400
70	"Biharee"	Bankipore	Do.	Akhauri Basudeo Narayan Singh and Purushottam Prasad Sarma.	700
71	"Ghar Bandhu"	Ranchi	Fortnightly	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott	1,250
72	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Weekly	Hari Krishna Joahar, Khetri, age 36 years	1,800
73	"Hitvarta"	Do.	Do.	Babu Rao Paradkar ; Maharatta, Brahmin ; age 30 years	3,000 to 4,000
74	"Lakshmi"	Gaya	Monthly	Mahadeo Prasad, age 38 years	200
75	"Marwari"	Calcutta	Weekly	R. K. Tebriwalla ; Hindu, Agarwalla ; age 41 years	500
76	"Siksha"	Bankipore	Do.	Pandit Sakal Narayan Pandey Kavyatirtha, Brahmin	300
77	"Mithila Mihir"	Darbhanga	Do.	Pandit Joganand Kumar	600
78	"Satya Sanatan Dharma."	Calcutta	Do.	Radha Mohan Gokulji ; Hindu, Vaisya ; age 47 years	500
79	"Tirhut Samachar"	Muzaffarpur	Do.	Sangeswar Prasad Sarma, Brahmin	400
URDU.					
80	"Al Punch"	Bankipore	Weekly	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 years	500
81	"Darul Hukumat"	Calcutta	Weekly and bi-weekly.	Hadiz Bux Ellahi, Muhammadan, age 42 years	1,000
82	"Durbar Gazette"	Do.	Daily	Nawab Ali, Muhammadan	1,000
83	"Star of India"	Arrah	Weekly	Muhammad Zahurul Haque, Muhammadan, age 61 years	657
PERSIAN.					
84	"Hablul Matin"	Calcutta	Weekly and daily	Syed Jelaluddin, Shiah Muhammadan, age 61 years	1,000
URIYA.					
85	"Garjathasini"	Talchar State	Weekly	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 43 years	In Orissa.
86	"Sambalpur Hitashini."	Deoghar	Do.	Dina Bandhu Gornayak, Chasa, age 37 years	Do.
87	"Samvad Vaheka"	Balasore	Do.	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 37 years	400
88	"Uriya and Navasamvad."	Balasore	Do.	Ram Tarak Sen ; Hindu, Tamil ; age 50 years	450
89	"Utkal Varta"	Calcutta	Do.	Hridaykeesh Pandey Kaviraj	500
90	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack	Do.	Gouri Sankar Ray	1,200

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st May 1912.

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Sarba Hitaishi"*	Bankipore	Daily	Mahabir Prasad, (caste and age not known).	Not known.
2	"The Calcutta Advertiser."	General Calcutta	Weekly.		
3	"Narad"	Chapra	Ditto.		
4	"Narad"	Ditto	Daily.		
5	"Dhruba Tara"	Mymensingh	Weekly.		
6	"Hitavarta"	Chittagong	Ditto.		
7	"Subarna Banik"	Calcutta	Ditto.		
8	"Teli Samachar"	Barh	Monthly.		

No. 83 "Medinipur Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 200 to 450.

No. 34 "Medini Bandhav"—the circulation has gone down from 600 to 425.

No. 38 "Murshidabad Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 162 to 200.

No. 45 "Pabna Hitaishi"—the circulation has risen from 100 to 500.

No. 27 "Jyoti"—the circulation has risen from 930 to about 1,800—2,000.

No. 57 "Sansodhini"—the circulation has risen from 300 to 400.

No. 78 "Satya Sanatan Dharma"—has ceased to exist.

No. 59 "Sulabh Samachar"—has ceased to exist.

* Defunct.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE Moslem Hitaishi [Calcutta] of the 26th July notices with despondency the internal political disputes in Turkey, and hopes that the British Government, with whom Turkey is now in friendly communication in connection with the Baghdad Railway, will help her with sound and judicious advice.

MOSLEM HITASHI.
July 26th, 1912.

The internal political disputes in Turkey.
2. **The Dainik Chandrika** [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes that, as regards the Trans-Caspian Railway, India is anxious only on the score of expense with which she may be saddled, expense incurred in the up-keep of troops to guard the line, and of warships. The reduction of the journey between England and India to one of seven days cannot do much good to India or England either. And as for commerce, the sea route will monopolise commerce to the exclusion of any Trans-Continental Railway. Who will guarantee that the Anglo-Russian Convention will last for ever? We could support this Trans-Caspian Railway if it entailed no future risks and did not bode increased expense for India.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 26th, 1912.

England's difficulty.
3. Commenting on Mr. Churchill's speech in the House of Commons for obtaining a supplementary grant for the Navy, the **Daily Bharat Mitra** [Calcutta] of the 27th July finds that, while Austria and Italy who belong to the Triple Alliance headed by Germany are increasing their naval strength, France one of the members of the Alliance led by England does not appear to be so successful in her attempt to improve her Navy, while the attempt of Russia too, the other member, is not worth the name. It is therefore doubtful if England alone would be able to cope with Germany. No doubt the colonies have promised help, but the paper feels sure they would fail to respond at the supreme moment when the struggle would become a question of life and death. England should, therefore, adopt a careful and firm policy, for the clouds which are just now threatening may begin to pour down at any moment.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA.
July 27th, 1912.

England and Germany.
4. Continuing its article of the last issue, the **Daily Bharat Mitra** [Calcutta] of the 30th July compares the Navies of other Powers with that of England to the disadvantage of the latter, and shows how the combined strength of America and Germany exceeds that of England, in consequence of which it has made it impossible for her to maintain the "two keels to one standard policy." The activity of Germany, as witnessed by various Navy legislations since 1900, has been explained as being due to her not having an outlet to the open sea. She is therefore said to be unable to participate in the division of other countries, which are at present falling an easy prey to other Powers. It is however fortunate that England has been timely awakened to the necessity of the hour, and her statesmen are calmly but firmly examining the situation, which has been made more critical by the international convention of last year known as the Declaration of London, on account of which England would not be able to put forth her full naval strength against her enemies, a reserve being necessary to protect her commerce. The task before England for coping successfully with Germany, involving as it does the complete remodelling of her Navy, is an impossible one.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 30th, 1912.

Ind.
5. Mr. W. Churchill's statement in the Commons affords the **Hindi Bangavasi** [Calcutta] of the 29th July an opportunity to describe, in a high-flown style, the growing preparation for war in Europe and Asia, and the rivalry between England and Germany, both of whom are increasing their Navies, and thus making war inevitable between these two Powers from sheer exhaustion of their funds for building ships. The war would also draw into it the other Powers, bound to either of the above two Powers by what are called alliances formed for maintaining the balance of power.

HINDI BANGAVASI
July 29th, 1912.

Affairs in Egypt.
6. Lord Kitchener, says the **Daily Bharat Mitra** [Calcutta] of the 28th July, has created a great commotion in Egypt. The Nationalist party is said to have a hand in the conspiracy recently discovered there, and the authorities do not like that any information about it should be published. It is evident, therefore, that

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 28th, 1912.

those who have been arrested have no chance of obtaining justice. It seems that brothers of Kamal Mustafa are already in trouble.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 24th, 1912.

7. Our very virtues, exclaims the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 24th July, prove to be our curse, for the Europeans now want to turn out the Indians from the Fiji Islands, where they have prospered by dint of their industry, frugality and good conduct, and thereby excited the animosity of the Europeans, who are the very reverse of their rivals. Those who consider the Indians incapable of improvement should know that they really do not get an opportunity for the same.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 25th, 1912.

8. Referring to Mr. Montagu's reply to Mr. Douglas Hall, explaining why the emigration of indentured coolies from India has not been stopped, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th July says that the Government of India has to look to the interest of colonies in preference to its own people.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

9. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July is glad that Lord Ampthill is still persisting in agitating the question of the Indian grievances in South Africa in the House of Lords. His Lordship deserves the gratitude of all Indians for his efforts. But it seems the Government at Home will not easily be moved to interfere in the concerns of the self-governing colonies. Nor is it expedient for them to do so always either. Of course this agitation in Parliament may secure some amendment of the colonial laws on this subject, but the colonial spirit and temper cannot be changed. Moreover, there are few people so obstinate as the Boers, where self interests are at stake. For these reasons we think a solution of this problem is yet far off.

SHIKSHA,
July 25th, 1912.

10. The *Shiksha* [Arrah] of the 25th July writes:—
"The Amir of Kabul has turned out of his territories the Hindu subjects of the British Government who followed there the profession of astrologers. But nobody turns the subjects of the Amir out of India, who take away from this country millions of money under the pretext of trade, and commit thefts and robberies and assaults on the people here."

In this connection the journal mentions the violence of the Kabulis in Calcutta, and says some measure should be taken to give protection to the Indians.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
July 25th, 1912.

11. According to the correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, writes the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th July, Swami Dayananda and his followers of Arunachal had no firearms with them, and that a drag in the adjoining tank has brought out only five tridents and a sacrificial sword. Why then did the police fire at them, wounding many males and females? If blank cartridges only were fired, how were these people wounded? The *Surama* newspaper, moreover, says that Swami Dayananda himself was so much wounded with kicks and blows with butts of muskets, that he was unable even to sit up. An enquiry into these matters is necessary.

SAWJIVANI,
July 25th, 1912.

12. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 25th July calls Swami Dayananda and his followers mad people who could easily have been arrested and brought, tied with ropes, to the headquarters. In fact, no shots were fired on the day on which they were arrested. Why then had shots been fired on the previous day? It is a matter of great regret that even women have been wounded. Bayonet wounds and marks of blows with butts of muskets are visible on the persons of many a woman. A correspondent writes that the condition of one of them, a member of the family of Madhav Chandra Mandal of village Abdullapur within the Munshiganj Subdivision, is critical. It is rumoured that Dayananda, who is living in *hajrat* with his disciples, will not defend himself in the law-court, so

that his trial will afford no opportunity to know all the facts in connection with the case. Government is, therefore, prayed to depute an able and trustworthy officer to enquire into the whole affair.

13. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th July says that imposition of fines by the Police Courts on cotton gamblers on charges of obstructing public thoroughfares and causing public nuisance will never suppress the gambling, for the gamblers make such large profits that they will pay fines as often as required and continue their business. A law is urgently required to stamp out the evil.

NAYAK,
July 25th, 1912.

14. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes that the Indian police are accustomed to commit various acts of illegality and oppression, very few of which actually see the light. It is desirable, therefore, that those few which are actually published should be carefully inquired into and the offenders punished. A Behari newspaper, for example, writes that some time ago a constable in the Motihari district entered the house of a poor man and attempted to violate some of his women-folk. There was an outcry raised, upon which the man gave a thrust with a bayonet into the person of one of the women, and escaped. Later he was caught but feigned madness and was remanded. Since then nothing more has been heard. Let the Government state publicly whether he is still mad, or has recovered, and, if so, when he will be placed on trial. Let not the matter be hushed up.

HITAVADI
July 26th, 1912.

15. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 26th July warmly praises a notice lately issued by the Inspector-General of Police in the United Provinces entitled "enquiry by Superintendents of Police into cases of oppression by Police officers on prisoners in their custody." The policy outlined in this circular that offending policemen in such cases had better be departmentally punished than brought before the Courts is sound, and it is to be hoped that heads of the Police in other provinces will issue such circulars also.

SAMAY,
July 26th, 1912.

16. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—
Coolie cases in the Surma Valley. Cases of oppression in the tea plantations in distant Assam do not always come to light. The public are not allowed into these gardens, and the coolies are not allowed to come out of them either. The public are, therefore, in the dark as to the oppressions committed in these gardens. We are happy, therefore, to see the *Surama* of Cachar publishing such cases as far as possible. We give below three of them, hoping that Government will inquire into them.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

(1) A *Haziri* Babu named Ramani Sarma was confined in the office room on the 26th June last by the *chotta saheb* of the Fulchari tea gardens near the Srimangal thana, in South Sylhet. Ramani's uncle complained at the thana, but the Sub-Inspector declined to take any immediate steps for his release. Later, he sent a letter to the Saheb and the result was that Ramani was released after a detention of some eight hours. On the following day, Girish (for that is the name of Ramani's uncle) managed somehow to bring his women-folk out of the garden he himself was not allowed to approach the garden) and also to get out some of his cattle, after paying 10 rupees for the purpose. Ramani also contrived to escape the same day.

(2) Hiralal, a goldsmith residing in the Lalchhara garden, used to supply ornaments to some employes on the Manipore tea gardens. One day in April last, he had some of his ornaments snatched away from him wrongfully and violently by some of these employes. He complained to the Manager of the Manipur plantation but got expelled ignominiously for his pains. Later, he sought the help of the Katlichhara Thana people but with equal ill-success. Lastly, he has approached the Magistrate at Hailakandi. It appears that he has since been also driven out of the Lalchhara garden. He is now absolutely homeless with two young children, for he cannot go away from these parts, until his wife, now four months advanced in pregnancy and serving under contract on the Lalcharra estate, gets her release also.

(3) Ram Bharat Muchi of Saraspur tea garden, two miles from Hailakandi town, came to serve in this estate five years ago with his brother. Now, for some unknown reason, the Manager has detained his brother's widow and two children, but turned Rambharat out. He has appealed to a Magistrate and a

report has been called for from the Manager, but so far no report has been submitted.

(4) A time-expired coolie of the Arkatipur gardens now living in a village hard by went to his own garden the other day to see his wife who was still serving there. Hearing bad reports of her character, he gave some slight chastisement. The matter was reported to the police, who finding the matter too trivial recommended the withdrawal of the charge. The Daroga deserves thanks for his conduct. But can a wife bind herself by an agreement without the consent of her husband?

BANGAVASI.
July 27th, 1912.

17. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th July reports from the *Bengalee*, how lately a Sub-Inspector of the Tippera Police station was reported against by an Inspector of Police, Comilla; how a departmental enquiry followed, but with results unknown to the public; and how the Sub-Inspector has since been promoted, though the Inspector remains what he was. If true, this matter demands enquiry by the highest official of the Department.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 28th, 1912

18. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 28th July finds nothing to wonder at if the European Police Sergeant assaulted Mr. Lahiri, a near relation of Raja Kishori Lal Goswami, the late Member of the Executive Council of Bengal, on Wednesday last at Serampore, for so long as the Police would not be made to consider the people its master, it will not be able to command their confidence and all reform would be impossible.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BASAR PATRIKA,
July 25th, 1912.

19. In the course of an account of the recent Rathajatra festival at Puri, the special correspondent of the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th July complains of extremely insufficient lighting of streets in the town during the festival, and says that the police, with all its elaborate arrangements, lacked in order and failed to dexterously manage the vast crowd that assembled to see the drawing of the Car. Constables and military policemen freely used their batons and canes on innocent people, and such was the disorder that a few people were killed in the crowd. This would never have happened had the police controlled the crowd by dividing it into sections.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 29th, 1912.

20. *Anent* the same subject, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th July says that there was great confusion and disorder among the vast crowd and many people died in the crush. The great delay in performing the *Pahandi* rite kept the crowd waiting in the sun, crushing and smothering each other, from early morning to 3 P.M. There was no arrangement for supplying wholesome drinking water to the pilgrims. Consequently, there was an outbreak of cholera amongst them. At Puri, railway servants behaved very badly with pilgrims, and there was no arrangement at the station for giving them shelter of any kind.

DURBAR GAZETTE,
July 26th, 1912.

21. From the reports received regarding the recent quarrel between the Christian Missionaries and the Muhammadans in the Wellington Square, the *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta] of the 26th July is inclined to believe that the Muhammadans acted under great provocation, for they were not a set of madmen to attack anybody without a cause, but it reserves its comment for the present as the case is *sub-judice*.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 31st, 1912.

22. On the authority of the *Arya Patrika* and the *Panjabi*, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st July notices the overt acts of the Musalmans of Multan, in the shape of taking out mimic processions to outrage the religious feelings of the Hindus, and asks if Government wishes to have a riot. The Government ought not to show so much indulgence to the Muhammadans.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
July 22nd, 1912.

23. Referring to the recent dacoity, at Pratapnagar near Barisal, the *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 22nd July describes in strong terms the extremely defenceless condition of the people of the country. Dacoits use fire arms, and poor villagers with all their courage and boldness have

to yield to them. The result is that all who can are forsaking villages for towns, and those who have not the means to do so are leading miserably oppressed lives. In the above case, the two men, Purna and Krishna Kamar Malakar, who risked their lives in opposing the dacoits, could most probably have defeated them if they had been provided with fire-arms. The police were informed of the incident at 2 A.M. But they did not turn up till 7 A.M. Were they afraid of the secret shots of the dacoits? Again, will not the Government give any rewards to Purna and Krishna Kumar for their self-sacrificing heroism? It will not do simply to complain of want of co-operation on the part of the people in these matters, for co-operation in these circumstances is impossible.

24. A correspondent of the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July says that wild boars are destroying the standing *aus* paddy crop in villages Sridharpur, Mathurapur, Purhakhati, Haripur, Patakeya, Balukodula, Darpasha and so forth, under the Abhaynagar thana, within the Narail Sub-division of the Jessore district, and are preventing cultivators from harvesting it and preparing the next crop of *aman* paddy. The villagers do not even dare stir out of home for fear of the ferocious animals. The authorities are prayed to take steps for their destruction.

25. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 17th July complains that depredations by wild animals are on the increase in parts of the Jessore district. Government has disarmed the people. They cannot even use a *lathi* to chase away a jackal or a dog, and have to look to Government for help even in such cases. The people would be content thus to leave to Government the entire responsibility of defending their life and property, but the pity of it is that Government is not taking steps to discharge this obligation on its part effectively.

MOSLEM
HITAISHI,
July 26th, 1912.

KALYANI,
July 17th, 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

26. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—

The Clarke case. All readers of the vernacular newspapers are aware what kind of opinion the Indian public have expressed on the way in which the Judicial Committee have decided the Clarke case. There is nothing new for us to say as to that. But the impression left on our minds, limited as we are in intelligence, by a perusal of Lord Macnaghten's judgment, is that there is nobody on earth so comfortable as a Civilian, no greater enjoyment in life than being a member of the Civil Service. Let us explain why we say so. Suppose some Indian gets arrested on a charge of sedition by mistake, is made to undergo life in *hajat* for a year or so, and is at last acquitted by the courts as innocent. Is there any suggestion even made, far less steps taken, to compensate such a man for his sufferings and humiliation? And yet here is a Civilian accused of trespass. The costs of the case on his behalf are met in all the courts from the public treasury. Ultimately, he wins his case. Throughout the litigation has been conducted on his behalf with public money. He has not had to spend a farthing therefor. And now the Secretary of State has suggested that something should be given to this Civilian Bahadur as compensation. We do not know if the Government of India will agree to this suggestion. In the meantime we can only express our amazement at the happy lot of a Civilian's life. How can a man be compensated who has spent nothing from his own pocket? It is inexplicable to us, how the Secretary of State could properly suggest compensation to be paid to such a man.

SAMAY,
July 26th, 1912.

27. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July, referring to the case of Moniruddin of Rajshaye lately found by the High Court to have murdered his mother by mistake and convicted of causing simple hurt and sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment, thinks that the ends of justice demand the release of this man.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

28. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July publishes a letter protesting against the practice alleged to prevail in many courts (including the Munsiff's court at

The Koran in Court. Gaibanda) of keeping a Koran in court to swear by, and of forcing all Moslem witnesses to take their oaths on it. The correspondent points out that no witness can be so forced against his will, and in any case taking an oath on the Koran is against the tenets of Islam and should be stopped. Let the Koran cease to be kept in the court libraries uncovered, and in a careless manner like common books, or handled disrespectfully by Hindu or other persons of the courts.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 29th, 1912.

29. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th July urges the necessity of establishing a district court in Calcutta and Wanted district Courts in Bombay for the relief of litigants, for litigation in the Original side of the High Courts is ruinously costly on account of the monopoly which barristers and attorneys-at-law enjoy of all cases in the Original side.

(c)—Jails.

KHULNAVASI
July 27th, 1912.

30. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 27th July quotes the following as a telegram sent by the Jail Superintendent of the Andamans to a local pleader acting on behalf of The case of Indubhushan Ray. Indu Bhushan Ray's relations:—

"Port Blair 29th May at 9-30 A.M.

Convict Indu Bhushan Ray committed suicide under hallucination that other seditioned prisoners contemplated murdering him, as deceased believed they thought him to be a Government informer,"

and points out that the *Bengalee's* version of the case is entirely different. That paper represents Mr. Barry, the Jail Superintendent, as stating that Indu complained of the work he had been put to, and asked for a change of work in order that his health might not suffer. This change having taken the form of work on the oil-press, Indu committed suicide. The question now is which correctly gives the facts, this telegram or the *Bengalee*. It is inconceivable that the telegram should give wrong information, and yet if the *Bengalee's* report is correct, this telegram cannot at all be believed. Again, whence did Indu obtain rope to hang himself with? How did he manage to reach the ceiling where to suspend the rope from? Are not the persons of prisoners regularly searched? Are not prisoners kept regularly under observation at night by convict warders moving about from room to room every 10 or 15 minutes, and rousing each prisoner and asking whether he is all right? Any way, Government cannot blame the public if they ask for an unravelling of the mystery surrounding Indu Bhushan's death. Let an enquiry be made and the results thereof made public.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

31. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July quotes from the *Surama* the following complaints about "loss of caste in a prison" made by Mani Mohan Deb, an ex-convict:—

"Loss of caste in a prison."

(1) We were moved to the Silchar jail on the afternoon of the 2nd June last. The Jail Daroga asked us that afternoon to eat, but we declined. The next morning (3rd June) we were asked again but we hesitated seeing that the cooking was being done by Manipuris. He threatened to thrash us and so at last we did eat. From the same pot were served out *dal*, etc., to all the men who were eating, Hindus, Moslems and Christians.

(2) We were asked to husk paddy into rice. Being unaccustomed to this work, we were thrashed with a log of wood on the head and the back by a *khilbardar* warder.

We were in Silchar jail from the 2nd to the 10th June, and all this time we were not allowed a single bath.

(3) We had no sleep at night, the blanket was infested with bugs, and yet lie down on them we must, the warders would not allow us to sit up.

(4) Two ladlefuls of a peculiar mixture known as *mary* were given to us in the morning. It was prepared without any admixture of salt.

(5) The midday meal consisted of rice, two ladlefuls of *dāl*, a "ladhra" and some acid. No additional salt was supplied.

The evening meal was the same as the midday meal.

Fish was said to have been supplied once during our term of prison life, but we could not detect its presence in the *ladhra*.

On the day we came out (the 10th June) the midday meal was taken by us all, Hindus Moslems and Christians in common. I objected to sitting down with them, and was thrashed in consequence.

(d)—Education.

32. Referring to the proceedings of the Congress of Universities in the British Empire, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 24th July lays stress on the proposal of Dr. P. C. Roy about the recognition of the degree conferred by one University by all its sister Universities of the Empire, and the provision of an equally high standard of education in all, as being the most needed to secure good will among its recipients whatever country or community they might belong to. But Mr. Balfour, who presided at its third sitting, sounded a discordant note thus sowing the poisonous seed of class distinction, by his declaration that the Eastern people cannot assimilate western education which, if imparted, deprives them of sound sense and real moral character. Mr. Balfour had no doubt India in his mind when he made the above statement. Narrow political considerations have, we are bound to say, continues the paper, warped the judgment of Mr. Balfour. The East can beat down the West in its own field, but anarchy and discontent must be the outcome of a policy of giving higher education but closing the avenues to advancement in life. Besides, if education be given to the people through the medium of their own vernacular, it is assimilated without any encroachment on the religious views of the student. The article is concluded with the remark that to make politics enter into the question of education is not good.

33. Referring to the decision of the Government to grant residential Universities to Aligarh and Benares, the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 26th July observes that while the Muhammadan leaders were trying, head and heart, to raise the community up from the pit of contempt into which it has fallen, it all along knew for certain that Government would not sympathise with the Muhammadans. It is very kind of the Government to give them a University at all, even of a residential type. The paper is of opinion that no residential University would be of any good to the Muhammadans, as they are void of means to send their children to Aligarh for education. They require a University like those of Calcutta and Allahabad, affiliating Muhammadan Colleges and schools in every city and town, which alone could benefit Muhammadan students, and remove the complaint which they have against the present Universities. The proposed University, otherwise, cannot benefit the Muhammadans of other parts of India and Burma, who have given donations for it so liberally. Children of well-to-do persons go to England and Aligarh for education and although Aligarh has been a centre of Muhammadan culture it cannot benefit the Muhammadans of all classes. The paper is quite against obtaining a Charter for a residential University, as it would not only be useless but mean a waste of money collected by penny contributions of the poor and pound contributions of the rich.

34. Seeing the success of the Muhammadan agitation in compelling Mr. Montagu to withdraw his statement about their homogeneity, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th July, would not be surprised if they would bring about, by a similar agitation, the withdrawal of the recent communique restricting the scope of the proposed Muhammadan University.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 24th, 1912.

STAR OF INDIA,
July 26th, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 27th, 1912.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

35. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—

Scope of the Muhammadan University.

We have long been saying the Government has decided to confine the activities of the Aligarh College to its own local habitation. We gave out this news but it was contradicted by Nawab Vikarul Mulk. We believe that he and his fellow-trustees knew of it all along, but kept the news back for fear of the subscriptions not coming in as freely as desired. What do they say now? This decision of Government will completely ruin the chief object aimed at by Sir Syed Ahmed in founding a University at Aligarh. And the value of the various professions on the part of Government on the necessity of a Moslem University is now apparent. The pleas on which subscriptions were asked for from the poorest Moslem, are now found out to be utterly futile. Of course an Aligarh University on the lines of Oxford will do Moslems some good. But we say that the aim with which the late Syed Ahmed proposed a new University at Aligarh, and with which all classes of Moslems all over India supported the scheme and which was repeatedly referred to in the speeches of the authorities, is now rendered utterly futile. The want which is now felt by the community will be felt even after Aligarh University on the proposed lines will have been established. The Moslem community has been greatly deceived in this matter.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

36. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July, referring to the recent

The Aligarh and Benares Universities.

press communique regarding the Aligarh and Benares Universities, remarks that this new order restricts the influence of these Universities to certain local areas. Men who cannot live in those two towns will not be able to enjoy the benefits of these Universities. Their necessity and their usefulness are thus both impaired.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

37. *Anent* the above, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July remarks

Ibid.

that these two Universities have the same end in view, as the existing Universities, and they only differ from the latter in providing religious education, the utility of which has been admitted by Government. Why then should their sphere of usefulness be thus restricted?

SAMAY,
July 26th, 1912.

38. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 26th July cannot understand what is

Ibid.

the use of founding the new Aligarh and Benares Universities, if they are not to be allowed to affiliate to themselves the colleges outside these towns, respectively.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 24th, 1912.

39. The policy adopted in restricting the scope of the Hindu and

Ibid.

Musalman Universities is likely, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 24th July, to create discontent in the mind of even the most loyal subject of His Majesty, and does not tend to the growth of good feeling between the rulers and the ruled, for it has only one meaning and that is distrust of the people, both Hindus and Muhammadans.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

40. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July cannot support the idea

A college for Zamindars.

of a separate college for Zamindars at Dacca, referred to by some landholders in the course of their recent address to Lord Carmichael at Dacca. Such a step will widen the gulf between the Zamindars and the middle classes, who form the backbone of the community.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

41. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July protests against the

Ibid.

proposal to found a separate college for Zamindars at Dacca. In this country, there has never been an aristocracy of wealth. The greatest kings have bowed their heads before the humblest Brahman, learned in the sastras. Why then should Zamindars now try to be exclusive? The caste-system is a bar against such exclusiveness, for rich Zamindars' daughters have often to marry sons of humble caste-fellows. The creation of such a college will tend to promote the class-feeling which has been the bane of the Indian public life, and is so utterly against the levelling tendencies of the present age. Moreover, there is no law of primogeniture in Bengal, and the rich Zamindar family of to-day will be split up into many petty middle class families to-morrow. Where then is the room for a separate college for Zamindars as constituting a class by itself?

In this connection the paper proposes the abolition of the Dacca Zamindars Association. With the abolition of Eastern Bengal as a separate province, the need for a separate association of Zamindars at Dacca has also disappeared. Let Zamindars all over Bengal combine in a single body to subserve the real welfare of the country and fit themselves for the leadership of the masses by cultivating education, amiability and liberalism among them.

42. It is rumoured, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 26th July, that 13,000 students have applied for permission to appear in the ensuing Sanskrit First, Middle and Title Examinations in Bengal. If so, the Sanskrit Examinations have within a few years become equal to the University Examinations. Of the 13,000 candidates at least 12,000 are Bengalis and three-fourths Brahmins. Now, what is the incentive of so many students to the study of Sanskrit? It is simply the Bengali's love of learning. Government will do well to note this point and help the spread of Sanskrit education in the country. The prevalent system of English education, on which the Government is spending lakhs of rupees annually, prepares as it were a field for the culture of sedition and discontent. In this field, students live in such big houses as the forefathers of ninety-nine per cent. of them never lived in. Here they live in a half-English and half-Bengali style, play football and cricket, and fill their brain with Bain, Bacon, Mill, Spencer, Milton, Byron, Shakespeare, Tennyson and so forth. When they come out graduates from the field, they consider themselves conquering heroes and equal to Whitemen in the struggles of the World. By spreading this system of education, our English rulers are injuring their own interests, and at the same time ruining the Hindu society. But students preparing for the Sanskrit Examinations do not acquire the vices of students of English. They do not harbour in their minds any marked ambitions, nor become agnostics. Their *Adhyapakas* or teachers are old type Brahmin Scholars, who lead lives of austere simplicity, and the students who live with and are maintained by them, also acquire plain and simple habits. They know that they will never have any opportunity to become Babus, so that with a pair of half slippers and a chaddar for their dress, they go on serving the Goddess of Learning in the humble cottage of their preceptor. They have faith in God. Sedition is unknown to them. They never discuss politics or speak ill of the ruling race. They become elated if they can make a permanent income of Rs. 30 per month. An intelligent Government ought to develop a system of education which produces such students. In fact, the Government of India ought to establish a Sanskrit University in Bengal and develop the *sol* system throughout the country. Under this system, a low course of English should be taught besides Sanskrit; and history, geography, science and so forth should be taught in Bengali. A similar University may also be established for the Musalmans, by developing the Madrasah and Muktab system. The Hindus and Musalmans of India have a right to demand from their Government the establishment of a system of education which will save their religion and society from destruction, and at the same time prevent the pernicious growth of sedition and perverse ideas among them.

43. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July is opposed to any separation of Eastern Bengal from Western Bengal in the matter of lower education, and says that one Director of Public Instruction should have the lower education of the whole province under him. But, continues the writer, it is necessary to appoint an Assistant Director, or Special officer for better management, and he should be placed in charge of the education of Musalmans. The special features of Musalman education as, for instance, the teaching of Arabic, Persian, and Urdu, make the appointment of such a Special Officer necessary for its progress. This is proved by the fact that it is the rule of appointing Musalman Inspecting Officers promulgated by Mr. Martin, late Director of Public Instruction, which has led to the increase of Musalman students in schools. Moreover, the Special Officer should be an Indian Musalman and not European. It is a mistake to think that a European only can ably manage an institution or a system of Musalman Education. Are not Hindu Principals ably managing many colleges, the most notable amongst them being the Sanskrit College? Have not Musalmans been found

NAYAK,
July 26th, 1912.

MOSLEM HITASHI,
July 26th, 1912.

Wanted a Special Musalman
Education Officer in Bengal.

competent for Memberships of Executive Councils in India and the Privy Council in England? There are at present in Bengal many Musalman Inspecting officers who have served long and with ability in the Education Department. The most notable names amongst them are Khan Bahadur Maulvi Muhammad Ibrahim and Maulvi Abdul Karim. Their experience of educational matters in Bengal is extensive, and they have a special knowledge of Musalman education, having for many years worked as Inspectors of Musalman education. Either of these two officers will make a very good Special Officer to be in charge of Musalman Education in Bengal. A junior Civilian or a European Professor will be absolutely of no use in the place.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
July 26th, 1912.

44. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July thanks the Government for having established Muktabs and night-schools in Calcutta for Musalman students, and highly praises the working of the Woodburn Middle English School and another Middle English School at Koreya. The writer urges on the Government the necessity for establishing secondary schools at Maniktala and Kidderpore.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
July 28th, 1912.

45. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 28th July says that Mr. (now Sir) Archdale Earle's scheme of improving Musalman primary education has not yet been fully carried out on account of want of funds. It is, therefore, suggested that out of the money apportioned to Bengal by the Government of India for improvement of primary education, a sufficiently large sum should be set apart for giving effect to this scheme.

BIHAR BANDHU,
July 27th, 1912.

46. Referring to the suggestion of a correspondent that Bihar's share of the Durbar Education Grant be applied to opening new middle schools, another correspondent of the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 27th July, viz., the Head-master, Bagha Middle English School (district Champaran), invites attention to the miserable salaries of the teachers of the existing middle schools and to the cheerful expectations that have been raised among the poor teachers of Board schools both primary and middle by the liberal grant, seeing that they did not participate in the Coronation bonus of half month's pay granted to certain Government servants.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

47. In connection with the Anglo-Indian Educational Conference at Simla, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July has a paragraph repudiating the suggestion made by some Anglo-Indians and their friends that Anglo-Indian education does not receive from the Government the same amount of pecuniary support that education for Indians receive. Sir Harcourt Butler has pointed out that this ascertainment is utterly unfounded. As it is, Anglo-Indians enjoy too large a share of the educational funds. This means serious injustice to the poor Indians. It is strange that Anglo-Indians are still found to murmur and protest.

JYOTI,
July 18th, 1912.

48. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 18th July protests against the decision of the Principal of the Chittagong College not to admit into his college students who have once got plucked. This is a hard rule, and is specially hard this year when students are finding it so difficult to get admitted into the colleges. Let the accommodation in all the colleges in Bengal, specially in the mufassal, be increased, else very soon there will come to be a denial of the benefits of high education to our students.

PABNA HITAIISHI,
July 24th, 1912.

49. The *Pabna Hitaishi* [Pabna] of the 24th July protests against any idea of abolishing the Engineering College at Sibpur or removing it to Dacca. If Sibpur is found to be an unsuitable place, the College may be removed to Calcutta. And Government may, if it thinks fit, establish a new engineering college at Dacca.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
July 26th, 1912.

50. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July draws the attention of Mr. P. Mukerji, Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division, to what is alleged to be a case of flagrant nepotism, in which one Purna Chandra, a junior Inspecting Pandit with no very high qualifications, is said to have been

promoted to an Assistant Sub-Inspectorship over the heads of a large number of senior Inspecting Pandits.

51. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 26th July objects to the appointment of Pandit Prabhu Dutta Sastri as a Professor of the Calcutta Presidency College, on the ground that he is a non-Bengali. Calcutta is no longer the seat of the Government of India. Why then should people of other Provinces be given appointments here? Again, Pandit Prabhu Dutta has been appointed in the Indian Educational Service. But Dr. Prafulla Chandra Ray is still in the Provincial Service. What justice!

NAYAK,
July 26th, 1912.

52. Our complaints, writes the *Jagaran* [Bagerhat] of the 28th July, against Hari Babu, Sub-Inspector of Schools, Bagerhat, were enquired into by Babu Harish Chandra Dutta, Assistant Inspector of Schools, with the assistance of Deputy Inspectors, Srinath Babu and Maulvi Ujir Ali, and so far as our information goes Hari Babu was severely taken to task by Harish Babu during the enquiry. But what the result of the enquiry has been is not known to us. One day, Babu Kiran Chandra Banerjee, the present Deputy Inspector of Schools, Khulna, came to our office and demanded the names of the persons who complained against Hari Babu and their letters. Kiran Babu is mistaken if he thinks that some one of the department had made the complaints. They had, in fact, been made by those people who suffered from Hari Babu's acts. However that may be, we shall be satisfied if we receive from the Divisional Inspector of Schools replies to the following questions into which Harish Babu made his enquiry:—

JAGARAN,
July 28th, 1912.

(1) Did not Harish Babu come to the conclusion that Hari Babu had acted against the rules by admitting in the last Lower Primary Examination at Bagerhat, a larger number of students than is allowed by the rules?

(2) Did not Hari Babu do injustice to a girl, named Nurjehan, of the Baithpur *pathsala*, and show partiality towards a boy-student of the Fatepur *pathsala* in this examination? Was not a re-examination held in consequence, with the result that Nurjehan became entitled to a scholarship?

(3) Was not the same irregularity of examining a larger number of students than is prescribed in the rules committed at Mollarhat thana also, and was not a re-examination held there too? Did not Hari Babu say to Harish Babu that he had allowed the additional boy to appear in the examination, because the boy's father promised to give him a sumptuous feast? Harish Babu asked him, what would have happened, had the boy stood first? What reply did Hari Babu give to this question?

(4) At first, at Mollarhat, Hari Babu selected students of upper primary schools only for examination, on the alleged ground that the lower primary schools had no eligible candidates. How did he get eligible candidates from the lower primary schools on the occasion of the re-examination?

We request the Divisional Inspector personally to make an enquiry into the complaints against Hari Babu, against whom we have no enmity, and whom we shall be glad to see absolved from all blame by an impartial enquiry. In conclusion, we have to say that since the advent of Babu Kiran Chandra Banerji as Deputy Inspector at Khulna, Hari Babu has been bragging about and even threatening us, and the teachers of the Bagerhat High School, who had complained against him, with severe punishment.

53. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July says that under the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam the Departmental examinations of Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Schools was so stiff that no more than three or four officers ever passed them. What will be the fate of the large number of officers who failed to pass? Will not the old system be abolished now? The attention of the Director of Public Instruction is drawn to the matter.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
July 26th, 1912.

54. Khadem-ul-Islam Sherazi writes to the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July to point out that a Bengali book entitled "Standard Geography" by Kedar Nath Mazumdar prescribed for the Middle Vernacular course in Eastern Bengal, contains on page 319 a statement to the effect that in Egypt the people are abominably

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

dirty and do not wash their eyes, so that many of them have defective eyesight and many are totally blind. It is pointed out that this is an impudent and discourteous statement made about an Islamic people in utter ignorance of the canon of Islam, which enjoins ablutions (Asu) of the person five times a day, such ablutions including the washing of the eyes. The author might also have known of the various Indian travellers (like M. Shibli Naumani) who have been to Egypt and have borne emphatic testimony to the cleanliness of the Egyptians. In conclusion, a request is made that this book should not be a text-book any longer.

NAYAK,
July 25th, 1912.

55. This year also, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th July, the same text-books have been prescribed for Eastern Bengal as were used under the old Government. Of course, the present is a year of rearrangement and it cannot be expected that everything will come out in fit order. But if there be no change in the selection of text-books for Eastern Bengal in future also, it will be evident that the authorities intend to keep it divided from Western Bengal in educational matters.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

56. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July, referring to the movement set on foot by Rai Girija Prasanna Mukerjee Bahadur of Gobordanga and some other gentlemen to get the Jamuna stream re-excavated under the provisions of the Sanitary Drainage Act, writes that it is understood that Government is suspending action in the matter because the people affected are not unanimous in demanding the enforcement of the Sanitary Drainage Act. Such unanimity can never be looked for in these cases, specially when the population is so ignorant and blind to the laws of hygiene. This is the first time that the public have prayed for the Sanitary Drainage Act to be enforced, and if a difficulty like this is to stand in the way, the Act had better not have been passed at all. The matter is pressing and it is to be hoped that Lord Carmichael will defer to public opinion and order the re-excavation of the Jamuna under the Sanitary Drainage Act.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

57. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—
“A serious complaint.” A serious complaint. Injury to the public health and the indifference of the authorities.
Along with the rise in the price of jute, the cultivation of that staple in Bengal has increased enormously. The time is approaching when the cultivators here will gather the fibre from the fields and steep them in all the pits and rivers and water-channels in the neighbourhood of each village. It will mean that at that time the people in various parts of Western Bengal will have to undergo the indescribable pangs of purgatory on the one hand, they will have to drink those poisoned waters with their horrible stink, and on the other they will have constantly to breathe an atmosphere seething with the hellish and poisonous odours emitted by those village pits. The effect will be that malaria, dysentery, cholera and other fatal diseases will make sad havoc of the village homes. The Government is not ignorant of this sad plight of the people; we cannot therefore understand why it still persists in its ruinous policy of indifference in the matter. The popular idea is—and that idea is fast being converted into a belief—that Government is indifferent in this matter for the sake of the interests of the European merchants. Any way whatever the reasons for its indifference, it can be firmly asserted that this indifference is proving fatal to the people of the country.

The truth of what we say may be verified from an examination at the proper season of any village or any stagnant river or *Baow* in any part of Western Bengal where jute is cultivated. For illustration we shall point to the villages on the banks of the Sonai stream included in the Swarupnagar thana in the Basirhat sub-division of the District of 24-Parganas. There are some 40 or 50 villages situated hereabouts on both banks of the river in question, and the inhabitants of them are wholly dependant on this stream for their supply of drinking water. The northern outlet of the river is closed

and the southern outlet also is practically closed because of *bhils* etc., located at its mouth. The cultivators in the adjoining tracts, for the sake of some small convenience, steep into this river jute grown in thousands of *bighas* of land. Things have come to such a pass that occasionally there is absolutely no room to spare on either banks of the river. And in the course of a week the water of the river which had been perfectly clear becomes quite blue (green?), and simultaneously it comes to be covered with a poisonous blue foam, emitting a pungent stink. The stink is so offensive that it becomes impossible at that time to walk on the river banks. The waters in the lowlying tracts in the villages at this time are so polluted, that if the body is touched with them the skin burns as though some poison has been applied. Every year, fish die in numbers because the waters become poisoned. Such fish as do not die, float about on the surface of the waters in a dying condition. And yet 25 or 30 villages are wholly dependent on the same waters for drinking and bathing purposes. By the use of this water, and from living in proximity to such a poisoned stream, the people in the villages above referred to, die in swarms during some months of the year. Malaria, Cholera and Dysentery flourish in an epidemic form, causing dire havoc.

The Daroga Babu of Swarupnagar thana comes each year to hold a so-called inquiry into the steeping of jute at the proper time, and after a cursory visit to the villages for two or three days only, departs quietly under the influence of some charm. The people here know what he comes for and what he does. The cultivators say that all their shortcomings would be overlooked if only they pay a rupee or two for each household. Indeed, there is no good to be expected till Doomsday, if the inquiry is to be held by the local Daroga Babus. We believe that they had better not come to inquire at all. Let the authorities inquire and find out whether our allegations are true or not.

In conclusion, we request the Collector of the 24-Parganas to attend to this serious complaint of the people promptly. They have repeatedly applied to him and we again approach him on their behalf. We look to Mr. Cunningham also to attend to the matter. And let it be noted that the cultivators may very well use the local *bhils* to steep jute in, thus foregoing the use of the river without any serious loss or inconvenience.

58. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 24th July takes Dr. Pearse, the Health Officer of the Calcutta Corporation, severely to task for having said to a representative of the *Statesman* that the Dengue fever which is now raging in an epidemic form in Calcutta is not a dangerous disease, and that he has not much direct knowledge about it. Dr. Pearse, continues the writer, has no knowledge about the Dengue fever, neither does he seem to be anxious to acquire any such knowledge. He has no extensive practice in the city, so that there is no chance of his ever acquiring such knowledge by treating patients. And he does not seem to be anxious to visit people suffering from the fever of his own accord out of curiosity or from a sense of duty. The Health Department of the Corporation is singularly lacking in a spirit of research. What then is the necessity of maintaining a Health Officer on a fat salary? As a matter of fact, some cases of Dengue fever have actually ended fatally on account of having developed pneumonia and other serious symptoms. Moreover, the fever is frequently relapsing, and there is as yet no knowing what physiological injury it may do in the long run. A scientific investigation into the pathology of the disease has, therefore, become urgently necessary. And as there is no hope of the Corporation doing anything in the matter, the Medical Board ought to take it up at once.

59. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July ridicules the Calcutta Corporation for creating a post of City Architect. The Corporation never hesitates to increase its establishments. But all the time the citizens suffer from scarcity of drinking water, from typhoid, malaria, plague, beri-beri, cholera, small-pox and other epidemics. And the slightest shower of rain leaves the streets a foot or two under water wearing the aspect of a new Venice. It is powerless to rid the city of the diseases and epidemics abovementioned, and yet it spends a crore of rupees yearly. This sort of farce would be impossible if the Bengalis

THE 24th
SRI SRI VISHNU
A PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BASUMATI
PATRIKA
July 26th, 1912.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

A City Architect for Calcutta.

had any sense of their civic duties. We demand self-government and yet we permit this travesty of self-government to continue in our chief city. It is disgraceful. When shall we learn to use our rights better?

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 25th, 1912.

60. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th July is glad to see the Corporation approving some of the proposals of their Health Officer for preventing the sale of adulterated articles of food in the Municipal Markets and would like to see similar measures adopted in respect of all the other markets within their jurisdiction.

It also regrets that nothing has been heard to have been done to give effect to its suggestions made last year, that not only the retail seller but the wholesale dealer of adulterated ghee which has been found to be used in preparing the confectioneries in the bazar should be prosecuted, although the Municipal Department was supplied, at its request, with the issue of the paper containing the above suggestion.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

61. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July quotes from the *Surama* a complaint that the Charitable Hospital at Silchar is in a most lamentable state. The rooms are full of dirt and the dung of kine and buffaloes. The

The Silchar Charitable Dispensary.

patients are most ill-cared for. A sick woman was seen being dragged by the legs to a particular room, just as the carcase of a jackal or dog would be dragged by boys. And yet this is a place where sick people are supposed to be tended and relieved.

BANGAVASI,
July 27th, 1912.

62. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th July in referring to the election of Babus Upendra Nath Maiti and Kalipada Hazra as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Midnapore Municipality, asks whether Lord Carmichael knows everything of the mystery attaching to these elections.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SRI SRI
VISHNU PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
July 26th, 1912.

63. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th July says that all the laudable efforts of the Government to improve agriculture in the country by establishing agricultural farms and institutions are becoming fruitless, because the results of experiments carried on in these farms and institutions are published in English and in a technical garb and consequently never reach the agricultural classes. A publication of these results in the vernaculars also will do no good, for Indian cultivators are all illiterate. It is, therefore, suggested that Government should appoint itinerant lecturers to deliver lectures on agriculture among cultivators in villages in the fashion of "*Kathaks*," from whom the illiterate Hindu public derive their knowledge of Hindu mythology and Hindu religion.

MIDNAPUR HITAIISHI,
July 22nd, 1912.

64. The *Midnapur Hitaiishi* [Midnapore] of the 22nd July invites the attention of the local Collector to the following allegations made by Dhirendranath Datta on behalf of the khas mahal raiyats :—

Hard rules for the collection of rents from tauzi No. 2735, estate Agar-mulda, and tauzi No. 2935, estate Majnamutha in the thana of Bhagawanpur in the Contai subdivision.

(1) The prosperous raiyats of the Government khas mahals have always been duly and honestly paying in the Government rents. The recent settlement has, however, altered their old status as raiyats, held them to be middlemen or under-tenure-holders and substantially enhanced the rent payable by them. They sought redress in the Revenue courts but without avail, and have therefore now been compelled to seek the help of the civil courts in order to defend their rights.

(2) The officers of the Khas Tahsil Department have taken up an attitude of decided antagonism towards the raiyats.

(3) The raiyats hold that to voluntarily pay the rents fixed at the recent settlement, would prejudice their rights and would damage their case now pending before court and they have therefore deferred payment at the

enhanced rates. If it be ultimately decided that the enhanced rates are legitimately due to Government, the latter will have no difficulty in realizing them through the ordinary processes of the law. Until, however, such decision is forthcoming, the rents ought to be levied at the old rates. This is only fair. But the officers of the Khas Tahsil Department are trying nevertheless to collect rents at the enhanced rates.

(b) The rents of Tanzi No. 2735, Sadar Mahal, used hitherto to be realized according to the Bengali year. For the present year the amli year has been substituted in its place. Now the raiyats pay in full rent for a single crop each year, but with the introduction of the amli year, the rent from Baisak to Aswin according to the Bengali year 1318, has been fixed at three annas instead of at two annas and three pies. If, again, the entire rent for the amli year 1319 is demanded, it will mean that a rent of 19 annas per each crop will be unjustly exacted.

(3) Before the raiyats who have appealed to the civil courts have obtained any decision on their cases, the officers of the Tahsil Department are briskly issuing certificates and notices on them and putting up their goods to auction under section 211, and the *chaprasis* are showing great activity in carrying off goods thus auctioned off to the Sadar town, with the least delay possible. The raiyats being unprepared for these sudden emergencies, find it hard to get together the money required at short notice. Formerly, goods intended for auction used to be lodged in the custody of the local police or Barua for a month, so that during that time raiyats had an opportunity of paying in their dues and getting back their things. Section 211 may be used only against an absconding debtor. And to use its hard provisions against raiyats who are comparatively well-to-do and cannot leave their homes, is to bring the law into disrepute.

4 Formerly, though the Bengal Tenancy Act provided for the realization of rents from a recalcitrant raiyat in four instalments each year, the Khas Mahal Deputy Collectors were kind enough to issue certificates on the raiyats only once a year. At present, however, in order to punish wrongfully and severely these inoffensive raiyats, the certificate officer is issuing certificates and auction sale *parwanas* under section 211 any number of times against the same individual for the same holding and thereby subjecting him to great harassment.

(5) If the raiyats gain their cases in the Civil courts, they will get costs and also get back the enhanced rents now being wrongfully exacted from them under section 211. If, however, a year elapses it will be difficult to get Government to refund money claimed in connection with these certificates. So it is doing the raiyats serious injustice to exact enhanced rents from these raiyats now.

(6) We cannot believe that a Government which has allowed its tenants such facilities for obtaining justice should have directed such oppression and the adoption of such an attitude of injurious opposition towards its humble raiyats. So we pray of the District Magistrate and the Divisional Commissioner and the Governor—

(a) to call for the records and ascertain whether or not Khas Mahal certificates have been issued against the same individual for the same holding many times during the same year, and if this complaint is found true, to allow the raiyats ample time to pay in their rents;

(b) to direct that until the Civil Court cases are decided, the rents at enhanced rates fixed by the recent settlement be held in abeyance and rents at the old rates be accepted; and

(c) to direct that rents at enhanced rates already realized by means of certificates be refunded.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

65. The *Hindustan* [Calcutta] of the 26th July protests against the constant demand, by English Merchant communities in India, of large extensions of railroads at public cost, for the interest which the Government has to pay on the

HINDUSTAN.
July 26th, 1912.

enormous loans which it contracts for constructing railways falls very heavily on the Indian tax-payer.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
July 16th, 1912.

66. Referring to the case of the alleged dismissal of the stationmaster of the Hajiganj railway station for having given evidence against Guard Gomes, the *Tripura Hitaiishi* [Comilla] of the 16th July publishes a Bengali version of the correspondence, as it appeared in the *Dinabadi* newspaper, which passed between the stationmaster and the Railway authorities on the subject.

HITAVADI,
July 29th, 1912.

67. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July points to the growing frequency of accidents on the Howrah Amta Light Railway and suggests that, as preventives, the Railway people should be compelled to moderate the speed of the trains while passing through the towns limits, and also to post a guard at the head of each lane crossed, to warn would-be trespassers on the line off. Or let the lines be taken outside the town limits altogether and laid down on Pancharantala Road.

MEDINI BANDHAR,
July 22nd, 1912.

68. The *Medini Bandhar* [Midnapur] of the 22nd July says that the closing of the Goalpara Sub Branch Canal in the Cossai Division of the Irrigation Department has caused failures of crops in the adjoining villages during the last few years. Cultivators have consequently been involved in debts and are gradually leaving the place. It is, therefore, urgently necessary that the canal should be opened. Moreover, if the canal is extended to the end of village Chak-kashi, nearly 20,000 bighas of land will be irrigated with its water. The attention of the authorities of the Department is drawn to these matters.

(h)—General.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA
July 25th, 1912.

69. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th July, after giving the substance of Lord Crewe's interpretation of the 3rd paragraph of the Government of India's despatch recommending the transfer of Capital, comments as follows:—

Lord Crewe wants to encourage the aspirations of the Indians and asks Lord Curzon not to throw cold water on them, but he would define the limits to this encouragement. He would give high appointments to them, but would not grant them Colonial Self-Government, on the ground that the Indians are an alien race. We have several times been told of the distinction between Black and White, but we did never dream that so high an authority as the Secretary of State would make that distinction a ground for refusing Indians their due rights. Hitherto, the high officials of Government told us that we would get them when we make ourselves fit to receive the same, but a different note is being sounded now. There is of course reason for it, and that is the inability of the Government to give a reasonable reply to the argument that one must get into water before he learns to swim. The reply to the plea now put forward by Lord Crewe is a little hard nut to crack, for the Indians will never become Europeans and therefore will never get self-government. When Lord Curzon called the late Queen Victoria's Proclamation as an impossible Charter, people were not so much offended because His Lordship was a Conservative. But Lord Crewe, though a Liberal has gone much further in showing disrespect to that Charter. The late Queen-Empress wanted to do away with class distinction, but Lord Crewe wants to perpetuate it. So far as India is concerned, there is no difference between Liberals and Conservatives; still no one could ever conceive that a Liberal English Minister would show such a disregard to the Queen's Proclamation. If it is to be in the giving of Lord Crewe, India can never expect to get self-government, but if it be in the gift of a Higher Power which rules the destiny of the world, the Indians must have it.

STAR OF INDIA,
July 26th, 1912.

70. The *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 26th July writes:—
The non-Muhammadian representatives in the Bihar Legislative Council and the Muhammadans. Legislative Council have proved themselves trustworthy in the eyes of those whom they represent, but such is not the case with the so-called Muhammadian representatives who

have, by their conduct, altogether lost the confidence of their constituents. The well-to-do persons, in their efforts to remedy the evils caused by the last election, want to step in their place disregarding the qualifications required of a Muhammadan member of a Legislative Council, who should, besides having a knowledge of English and the power of arguing the points raised in the Council, have a due regard to the interest of his community and be at the same time a strict follower of the rules and tenets of Islam. So long as our representatives will only think of what is of political importance, they will not be able to discharge with honesty and efficiency the duties of a communal representative.

When so many qualifications are required in a member of the Council, the endeavours of ordinary men to become members would not only prove to be a disgrace to the race to which they belong, but will also deprive it of all its rights and privileges. The result will be that the non-Moslem representatives taking advantage of the weakness of their Muhammadan colleagues will make short work of our rights and privileges for good.

Such being the case the leaders of the community should elect from each division such educated Muhammadans as have got the above qualifications in them for the membership; and if any such Muhammadan avoids being elected, he should be induced to accept the appointment.

The paper reserves action in giving effect to his suggestion till the names of the candidates for seats in the Council are published in the official Gazette.

71. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta], of the 28th July, makes the following suggestions *apropos* of the amendment of the Council Regulations now said to be under consideration by Government:—

The Council Regulations.

At the last election, a number of Moslems got into the Councils whom the community were not at all prepared to send as its representatives. The men whom the community was eager to return were not returned at all. There were two reasons for this: First, in framing the Regulations, Government ignored learning, wisdom and patriotism and showed an undue preference for pecuniary status and for the enjoyment of official titles. This resulted in the utter exclusion of educated and wise men who were ornaments of the Moslem community. The second cause was the system of voting by delegates. As a result of this system, persons were elected often unknown to, and sometimes against the wishes of, the voter. The delegates in casting their votes paid no heed to the wishes of the voter. Government cannot be ignorant of the unpleasant scandals of this kind which took place at the last election. Any way, let Government and the community both be on their guard against a repetition of such scandals. Let this system of voting by delegates be abolished as injurious. And, in fixing the qualifications, let more attention be paid to education, independence and patriotism than to pecuniary or honorific distinctions.

In the case of both the Imperial and the Bengal Legislative Councils, during the last election, certain most unpleasant sights were witnessed. Two of the Moslem representatives on the Bengal Council adopted a policy of preserving a stolid silence throughout the successive sessions. On the Imperial Council certain Moslems returned by Moslem constituencies did not shrink from protesting against the existence of those separate Moslem constituencies. Moslem members were found objecting to Mr. Gokhale's Elementary Education Bill, though the entire Moslem community supported it. But Mr. Basu's Bill found support from some Moslem members, though it went against the whole spirit of the Islamic faith. It is true that some of these members pointed out that they spoke their individual views. But were they sent to Council to air their personal views? If they find they cannot agree with the views of their community, let them resign their seats on the Council.

The qualifications for a voter have been so fixed as to exclude utterly the whole mass of the community consisting of the middle and the lower classes. It is these classes who should be afforded a voice in the elections. We refer particularly here to the tenure-holder and the agriculturist. These men have many interests at strife with the landholding class.

The qualifications for voters differed in the two Bengals at the last elections. In Eastern Bengal graduates of a year's standing had the vote, but

MUHAMMADI,
July 28th, 1912.

in Western Bengal graduates of 10 years' standing only were eligible. In Eastern Bengal, Maulvis who had passed the final Madrasah examination were given the franchise, but Western Bengal Maulvis were deprived of this privilege. We cannot understand the justification for these differences. In Western Bengal, Moslems formed a much weaker community (specially because of their paucity in numbers) than in Eastern Bengal. That makes the existence of these differences the more unjustifiable. We propose in this connection that the qualifications in the Rajshahi, Dacca and Chittagong Divisions should remain as they are and that those in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions should be brought into line with them.

The number of Moslem delegates also sent to Council requires to be increased.

And, lastly, at the present time far too many of the members returned by the various electorates are apt to dance to the tune set for them by the Secretariat officials. The debates on the Calcutta Improvement Bill show this beyond denial. Public opinion in the country has now organized itself and Government wants no longer to ignore it. What is wanted, therefore, is the return of members who can properly speak for their respective sections of the community freely and fearlessly.

BANGAVASI,
July 27th, 1912.

72. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th July writes that the people of Sylhet recently presented to Sir Archdale Earle at Sylhet Town an address, in the course of which a prayer was made for the restoration of Sylhet to Bengal.

The reunion of Sylhet with Bengal.

Sir Archdale gave a frank and polite reply, but his arguments do not seem convincing. We request the Government of India to do justice to the people of Sylhet.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

73. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes that the Hindus of Manbhum and the Sonthal Parganas demanded reunion with Bengal, and it seems that their prayer is about to be granted. The report that the

"One by one," or the reunion of the Bengali-speaking districts.

Jamtara and the Rajmahal subdivisions are to be transferred to Bengal has not yet been contradicted. There is a fresh report coming in now that Manbhum and part of Purnea also are to come over to Bengal. We do not object to these changes, but if all the Bengali-speaking population is to be under one government, why should not Sylhet also be brought over to Bengal? All things considered, the claims of Sylhet for such reunion are superior to those of other districts. It is pre-eminently a Musalman area and hence we make this appeal to Government.

BIRBHUMVASI,
July 26th, 1912.

74. The *Birbhumvasi* [Rampurhat] of the 25th July says that like the

Some parts of the Sonthal Parganas want to be included in Bengal.

Jamtara and Rajmahal subdivisions of the Sonthal Parganas District, its Pakur subdivision also, or at least, such villages in it as are mostly inhabited by Bengalis, should be included in Bengal. Moreover, village Maluti, the seat of an ancient Bengali Raj family, besides a large number of respectable Bengali families, should be included in Rampurhat.

RATNAKAR,
July 26th, 1912.

75. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 20th July says that Burdwan is a very large and unwieldy district; it should, therefore, be partitioned, and a new district be

Wanted an Asansol District. formed including all the coal areas in the locality, with head-quarters at Asansol.

RANGPUR DIKPRASH,
KASHI,
July 21st, 1912.

76. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina] of the 21st July says that what Mymensingh requires for its good government is not so much a partition of the district as establishment of a large number of police-stations and adoption of other means of good government in its mufassal for suppressing crime and disorder.

The partition of Mymensingh.

DAILY NARAD,
July 24th, 1912.

77. If Mr. Montagu is coming out to India with the object of acquiring some knowledge about the country, the *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 24th July would advise

Advice to Mr. Montagu.

him to mix with the people and try to know their sorrows and joys, instead of passing a fortnight in a surrounding of Europeans.

SANJIVANI,
July 25th, 1912.

78. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 25th July considers the recently published rules for appointments in the Registration Department, Government of Bengal, as

Registration Department Rules.

tainted with partiality. According to these rules an English-knowing person, who has passed the final Arabic Examination of a Government Madrasah, will be eligible for appointment. Why then has it not been provided, that an English-knowing person, who has passed the final Sanskrit Examination, will also be eligible for appointment? The rules require revision with a view to ensuring equal advantages to all classes of people.

79. The *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 24th July supports the proposed Public Service Commission, on the ground that to ascertain the cause of a malady is necessary even if the physician may not apply the remedy; but it would have two Indians on the Commission, otherwise it expects no good, seeing that the various commissions appointed before this cost so much but resulted in little good to the country.

80. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th July says, that if the office of the Bengal Secretariat have to accompany the Governor of Bengal, in his annual movements from Calcutta to Darjeeling, from Darjeeling to Dacca and from Dacca to Calcutta, there will be great dislocation of business, and much time will be lost in packing and unpacking. The writer therefore suggests that the offices should not accompany His Excellency to Dacca, but move between Calcutta and Darjeeling as before. His Excellency may be accompanied to Dacca by one or two of his Secretaries.

81. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 26th July is surprised to find from an advertisement published in the *Daily Telegraph* of London on behalf of the Director-General of Post Offices of India, that the method of secretly appointing men is still in vogue in this country, and since it is due to the rulers not being responsible to the ruled, it is impossible to check it.

82. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July agrees with *Capital* in suggesting a Government enquiry so as to ascertain who is the party who has appropriated the *lakh* of rupees from the funds of the Dumraon estate, to which reference is made in the judgment of the Sub-Judge who tried the Dumraon succession case.

83. Drawing the attention of the local Muhammadan gentlemen to the wretched condition of a mosque situated at Nagarban (district Lucknow), one Humayun Mirza, correspondent of the *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta] of the 26th July, says that if the Muhammadans of Shamsabad do not have it repaired the Government should include the Mosque in the list kept under the Ancient Monument Preservation Act and see to its repairs and up-keep, as it has already done with similar buildings of that town.

84. Have postmen in the mufassal, asks the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July, ceased to receive salary from the Government? If not, how is it that they do not

visit villages, but deliver newspapers to any co-villager of subscribers they may happen to meet with the result that very often the papers do not reach the hands of their owners? The attention of the postal authorities is drawn to the matter.

85. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July writes mockingly of the waste of public money involved in the creation of the new appointment filled by Mr. Malet. It is to be hoped that this multiplication of agencies for looking after Indian students in England may not ultimately be found severely to hamper their legitimate freedom. As regards Mr. Malet personally, his selection is probably preferable to that of a sun-dried Anglo-Indian. More than this cannot be said. His post is an unnecessary one, which India could well do without, and so we can bear with equanimity to see any one filling it, be it Malet or Hamlet.

86. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July commends to the favourable notice of the Viceroy the memorial submitted by some clerks of the Military Accounts Office, recently transferred from Madras to Bolaram, pointing out the inconveniences of living

DAILY NARAD,
July 24th, 1912.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
July 25th, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 26th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

DURBAR GAZETTE,
July 26th, 1912.

MOSLEM HITASHI,
July 26th, 1912.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

at the latter station. The paper holds such transfers of offices are often the outcome of official caprice and are carried out in utter disregard of the convenience of the clerks.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA
July 26th, 1912.

87. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 25th July expects no good from the labours of the Research Fund Association, constituted as it is, of men who do not approach such questions with an open mind—a quality in which the European doctors are so lacking.

The paper quotes, in illustration, the hostile attitude of Dr. Bashford towards Dr. Bell who after thirty years investigation of the malignant tumour of which thousands of Europeans are dying every year, arrived at the conclusion that the disease is due to meat diet.

JYOTI,
July 18th, 1912.

88. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 18th July protests against the proposed imposition of a duty on rice exported from Rangoon to India. Such a proposal recognises a distinction between India and Burma to the injury of the former. And yet Burma has been conquered by Indian money and the contact between the two countries is the closest imaginable. Indeed lakhs of Indian labourers are every year employed on agricultural work in Burma. Of course communications in Burma must be improved. But the funds for that purpose should be found by a general enhancement of the export duties and not by the levy of an extra duty on a single article of export. For will not all branches of commerce profit by these improvements?

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 26th, 1912.

89. To understand the Excise policy of Government has become a difficult task for the people of this country, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 30th July. The officials condemn intemperance on the one hand and, by granting monopolies to highest bidding farmers, give them a free hand to open liquor shops whenever and wherever they like in the country on the other.

Here the paper quotes the increase in the Excise Revenue in the different provinces, which reaches 124 per cent. in the Punjab, and ends with the remark that so long as the Government does not change its excise policy the situation will grow still worse. Such being the case who is responsible, asks the journal, for the growing drunkenness in the people.

DURBAR GAZETTE,
July 26th, 1912.

90. The *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta] of the 26th July reproduces an article from the "*Wakil*" of Amritsar which, writing on "the present civilization and intemperance" deplores the growing evil of drinking which fifty years back was unknown in the country. The number of distilleries is daily increasing. Drink was formerly considered a barbarous habit but now it has become a necessary thing even in the educated circles. In conclusion, the paper warns the Musalman community to check the evil, otherwise they would have to suffer in this as well as the world to come.

BASUMATI,
July 27th, 1912.

91. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 27th July wants to know whether, as result of Lord Minto's orders of 1909 on the subject, the various Departments of Government are actually buying Indian made things in larger quantities than before in preference to getting them from England. It would seem unfortunately that most officials have utterly ignored their duty in this matter. The report of the Engineering Association shows that the promises made by Government in the order above referred to have not been carried out by the officials. Three years have gone by since those orders were issued, but up to this date no additional indents have been received by Indian manufacturers in consequence. It is true that a list of goods manufactured in India has been prepared and a price list is in course of preparation. Now, a list of goods is unnecessary and a price list if published will do serious injury to Indian manufacturers as producing a mistaken idea among the public. For things are ordered from England in immense quantities while from Indian manufacturers they are bought in very small quantities. How then can the prices in the two cases tally? Wholesale and retail rates can not be the same.

It is said that there is a set of officials whose duty it is to cut out from the list of indents on England such things as are manufactured in India. But these men have no special knowledge of Indian manufactures. The Stores

Committee in 1906 stated that about 70 lakhs worth of goods out of the total value of goods purchased in England in 1904-05, might be had locally manufactured. But Indian manufacturers have not yet received any extra orders from Government amounting in value to this sum of Rs. 70 lakhs. The Indian Engineering Association wanted from the Commerce and Industry Department a copy of the list of goods purchased in England, but got none. They were asked to supply to the Department a list of things they could supply of their own manufacture. This is most unjust. The supply of this list would have enabled Indian manufacturers to know which of the things Government buys in England they could manufacture in India. Indian manufacturers after all only want justice and no favour. The matter demands the attention of the Viceroy.

92. Having read a notification published in the local *Telegraph*, alleged to have been issued by the Government of Bengal to the officials and the police, declaring the term "Swadeshi" unobjectionable, and permitting help to encourage Swadeshi enterprise, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th July cries "Victory to Lord Carmichael" and says this indicates a change in the policy of the Bengal Government.

HINDI, BANGA VASI,
July 29th, 1912.

93. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th July speaks warmly of the hope inspired in the public breast, by Lord Carmichael's recent assurance that he will undertake an inquiry into the malaria question, with help of experts, and warns His Excellency against accepting as such experts men like Dr. Bentley and Major Fry, who, great scientists though they may be, lack entirely knowledge of Indian local conditions. Their foreign up-bringing stands in the way of their completely appreciating the Indian conditions. Recent natural changes in Bengal have been the result of many new causes which can be understood only by Indians, but not Indians with an Anglicised spirit. Great care should therefore be exercised by His Excellency in selecting his advisers in this matter. So only will the high hopes he has raised be fulfilled.

BANGAVASI,
July 27th, 1912.

94. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Kakina] of the 21st July, highly lauds Lord Carmichael's efforts to gain direct personal knowledge of the country by making extensive tours through it, and receiving addresses from and granting interviews to all classes of people, and says that the thing which the country now most requires for national advancement is spread of education.

RANGPUR
DIKPRAKASH,
July 21st, 1912.

95. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes in terms of warm praise of the manner in which Lord Carmichael is winning golden opinions on all sides, by the sympathy and readiness to look into genuine popular grievances he is showing. Bengal may well look to a glorious future of peace and contentment under her present Governor. Appreciative reference is made to His Excellency's conduct in taking up into his own carriage a common peasant who had approached him with a memorial on the river bank at Barisal on the evening of the 13th July. This peasant had his grievance looked into personally by Lord Carmichael. Special commendation is bestowed on the Governor for the following passage in a recent speech of his:—

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

"I know that you recognize, that in the main, and in all things which are most essential, your interests are the same as those of your fellow-Indians, whatever, be their creed, and I believe that you trust me to do all I can to favour those interests. But I can assure you, that I recognize certain matters in which, owing to your history you have, just as others have, special needs. It is my duty to try to find out those special needs, and wherever possible to treat them sympathetically."

There is nothing new in these words, but they gain a new dignity from the exalted lips which have uttered them. Let Moslems find in these the guiding principle of their political conduct, and co-operate with the Hindus in working for the common good of the common country.

96. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 26th July refers to a deputation which lately waited on Lord Crewe in London, in connection with the growing evil of intemperance in India, and remarks that though the proceedings remain

SAMAY,
July 26th, 1912.

A deputation to promote temperance in India.

a secret, it is to be hoped neither Lord Crewe nor Lord Hardinge will ignore the recommendations of this deputation to cure an evil which is growing in proportion every day.

III.—LEGISLATION.

DAILY NARAD,
July 23rd, 1912.

97. Attributing the recent strikes in some of the Calcutta Mills to the Factories Act which came into force on the 1st of this month, the *Daily Narad* [Chapra] of the 23rd July observes that it is the European mill-owners who have been the first to fall into the netting spread, by their brethren in England, for the Indian mill-owners. Man proposes but God disposes!

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

98. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes that Mr. Jinnah's Waqf Bill at first received a considerable measure of support. But maturer consideration is revealing more and more defects in it. In the first place, Mr. Jinnah has completely lost the confidence of the community he originally enjoyed. By his support of Mr. Basu's Bill, he offended against the principles of Islam. His religious principles also are coming to be suspected under these conditions. It is desirable that his Bill should be carefully considered and the opinion of *Alem* taken on it. What the fate of this Bill will be it is difficult to foresee. Mr. Jinnah himself will not probably seek re-election, for he knows he has forfeited the sympathy of his co-religionists. Who then will pilot this Bill through Council? He may be nominated by Government for the purpose. If not, the alternative course will be to entrust the Bill to some other member. Any way, this Bill demands careful consideration from the Moslem community.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,
July 26th, 1912.

99. Referring to the retirement of Maharaja Sir Kishen Prasad from the service of the Nizam, the *Moslem Hitaiishi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July says that during his term of office he greatly wounded the feelings of Musalmans by marrying a Musalman lady, a form of marriage which is approved neither by Hindu nor by Muhammadan religion. It is hoped that the New Prime Minister of the Nizam will, with the assistance of Nawab Syed Hossain Bilgrami, be able to manage the affairs of the State ably. The present Nizam is said to be a well-educated and liberal ruler who is expected to be able to free his court from plots and schemes which have so long disgraced it.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SANJIVANI,
July 25th, 1912.

100. Referring to the strike of Medical men in the United Kingdom, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 25th July suggests that the Home Government should punish the strikers by importing medical men from India. Bengal alone can easily supply two or three hundred medical men to England.

BANGAVASI,
July 27th, 1912.

101. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th July cannot understand how it comes about that at a time when economies are contemplated in the army, involving the disbandment of some Indian regiments, Government is thinking of forming an Anglo-Indian regiment. If an addition to the forces is held necessary, let such a regiment be recruited by all means. But it is unjust that tried Indian veterans, who have served the king their whole lives, should now be discarded in favour of Anglo-Indians, who will be more expensive, for these Anglo-Indians demand the same rates of pay as the European soldiers.

HITAVADI,
July 26th, 1912.

102. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—
“Insulting the High Court.”
Our readers are aware what an outcry some Anglo-Indian papers made when the Privy Council reversed the judgment of the High Court in the Clarke Case. Sir John Rees

displayed excessive zeal in the matter in Parliament. He is a retired Civilian and may therefore naturally sympathise with a brother Civilian. But the repeated attacks he made in this connection on the Indian High Courts, suggest that while in service in India he must have been occasionally brought to book by these High Courts. Else why should he be so much angry with the High Courts?

Everybody knows that from time to time Civilian executive officers have displayed their ill-will towards High Courts. Many have not even shrunk from insulting them even. But for the High Courts, the oppressive proclivities of many officials would be quite unchecked. That we can well understand. But we did not expect Rees Bahadur to go the ridiculous lengths that he has gone in this matter. The High Courts may appear to be so many thorns in the tyrannous ways of certain Civilians, but they are absolutely necessary for the protection of the rights and liberties of the subject. So the authorities should always be on their guard to uphold the dignity of the High Court.

It is true that the Under-Secretary for India did not hesitate to rebuke Sir John Rees in Parliament over his strictures on the High Court. All the same we think he might with advantage have expressed himself more clearly on some points. When Sir John Rees proposed that Mr. Clarke should be compensated, Mr. Montagu should have set out in detail, what loss he has suffered. People see that the esteem which Mr. Clarke enjoyed in the eyes of the authorities before this lawsuit, has not abated at all after it. His old pay has not been reduced, and he has not been degraded in office either. The public believe that the entire costs of the suit have been borne by Government. The people at large has not yet been able to understand what the compensation is to be for. And nobody has yet tried to make them understand either.

People see so many accused suffer the hardships of *hijab* life for months and then at last held innocent by the courts and released. But no compensation is ever proposed for them. Is there any telling how many innocent men were harassed and injured in untold ways in connection with the Howrah Gang Case, the Midnapore incidents, the Bomb cases, etc? Nobody ever says anything about compensating these men for their losses, and if any suggestion is made to that effect, the authorities pay no heed thereto. Yet here is Mr. Clarke who has gained a civil suit, and he or whoever else paid the costs, will be reimbursed therefor. He had to suffer no physical or pecuniary loss in the course of the lawsuit, and still there are people whose anxiety knows no bounds, to learn what is being done to compensate him. What is the idea people will form from all this? There would be no suspicions in the public mind if Mr. Montagu had dismissed the suggestion for compensation. But for some inexplicable reason he kept silent in the matter, and hence the public suspicions are not being allayed.

Any way talking of the hatred of Civilians towards High Courts, the public idea is, that better justice is done by the Barrister judges than by the Civilian judges. For the Barrister judges are believed to be more learned in the law than the latter. Moreover, these Barrister judges not having ever had any relations with the executive authorities, the popular idea is that they show greater independence and impartiality in their judgment. And these ideas are not held only by ignorant men either. The educated section of the public also share these beliefs. But Civilians do not cherish these high ideas about Barrister-Judges. We remember how when the Bomb cases were being heard at the Alipore Sessions, it being stated by somebody in court that Barrister-Judges were better than Civilian-Judges, the presiding Civilian-Judge laughed out and asked, why, is it because Barristers eat a number of dinners and pass out? Of course these remarks were exchanged in joke, but ordinarily Civilians do not have much respect for Barrister-Judges, and that is evident at every step. Sir John Rees' conduct only betrays this disrespect in an exaggerated form.

In a recent case the High Court called for an explanation from the Civilian Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh. Of course that officer did not relish this order of the High Court. Hence he could not conceal his feelings in submitting his explanation. On reading his explanation, Mr. Justice Imam called it most disrespectful to the High Court. Of course, the Hon'ble Judge did not proceed any further than making this remark, but we think Government

has a duty in the matter. It should inquire why the Deputy Commissioner insulted the High Court, and should take steps to prevent the recurrence of such conduct. We trust Lord Carmichael's attention will be drawn to the matter. Such conduct in a subordinate court towards the highest court in the land should never be overlooked.

Even before this, some Civilian executive officers have been guilty of showing disrespect to the High Courts. It is unnecessary to give here all their names and doings. Many will remember Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, who said that the High Court had no right to call him to account for what he might do as Head of the district. Ultimately however he had to bend his knees before the High Court. Readers will also remember how Mr. Lyall, Magistrate of Bhagalpore, showed disrespect to the High Court in connection with the case of Rash Behari Mandal. In this case also Mr. Lyall had in the end to bow his head before the High Court. But Mr. Lyall has not yet learnt his lesson. He is now at Muzafferpur, and here also he has recently been reproved by the High Court in connection with certain proceedings he had directed to be taken against one Ram Udar-abd Ram Newaji. May we ask why Sir John Rees takes no note of cases like these? Who shall deny that accused like these would have no chance of salvation but for the existence of the High Court? The case of Mr. Pennell shows how far the system of "My dear"—ing prevails among Civilians. Why then should not people be partial to Barrister-Judges? But of course Civilians inclined to arbitrary ways cannot like the former. But when their discontent shows itself publicly, steps should be taken to uphold the dignity of the High Court and to teach such offending Civilians a lesson. The public cannot be satisfied with anything short of this.

NAYAK,
July 25th, 1912.

103. Our leaders, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 25th July, ought to think thrice before holding the projected Town Hall meeting to consider the Judicial Committee's judgment in the Clarke case. A discussion of the Committee's mode of deciding the case is sure to land one in sedition. Moreover, what is not sedition in English, becomes so in Bengali, by virtue of the shape which the Government Translator gives it in translation. And, as a matter of fact, our leaders and public men are actually full of such sentiments as cannot but be considered seditious if expressed in plain Bengali. Under the circumstances it is best they were not discussed at all.

What does it matter to us if Government itself proceeds to break down the precious foundation consisting of the High Court and the system of even-handed dispensation of justice, on which it is firmly established? In spite of all our good wishes for the safety and welfare of British rule in India, what can we do if the authorities do not understand our plain words and persist in following a wrong course. Mark how the educational policy of the Government will naturally breed sedition. (1) Students brought up in big hostels like sons of rich men, will inevitably be discontented in after life when they will fail to earn sufficient money to live in the same high style. (2) Students under the present system of education are filled with English ideas and take Englishmen as their ideal. Moreover, they become graduates by thousands. When in after life they fail to earn sufficient money, they naturally become discontented. (3) The spread of primary education will simply filtrate the lofty ideas and aspirations of the educated classes into the lowest strata of the society. (4) If over and above this sort of education the cry for autonomy and colonial Self-Government spreads amongst all classes, the situation will become really serious. We are afraid of public meetings for discussing politics, for we have enemies among the so-called popular leaders. We know that one of them actually spoke against us to Sir Edward Baker, and thereby made him hostilely inclined towards us. All the oppressions to which we were subjected in connection with the *Hitavadi* originated in this way. However that may be, we are afraid of public political meetings for the sake of boys, who are most affected by them and run the risk of being packed off to jail.

NAYAK,
July 27th, 1912.

104. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 27th July denounces the Calcutta Town Hall meeting on the previous Friday as a dismal failure, where Babu Surendranath Banerjee from sheer force of habit indulged in speechification after the old style. There was a large muster of students, mainly from the City and Ripon Colleges, and

The recent Town Hall meeting.

there would have been some 300 or 400 more from the University Law college, had the hours of attendance at that institution permitted of it. There was the usual assembly of all the local political great men, only Bhupendranath and Krishna Kumar were missed.

The proceedings were rather peculiarly conducted in that the passing of each Resolution was followed by the withdrawal of a section of the gathering most interested in that particular Resolution and indifferent to the rest. There was an utter unreality about the speeches which has been detected by the *Englishman*. It was in fact a show got up to give Surendranath an opportunity of showing himself off before the public once again as in the old days, and retrieving himself from the discredit into which he has fallen.

105. In supporting the resolutions of the protest meeting held in the local Town Hall on Friday last, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 28th July would have a similar protest meeting in every town in India.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 28th, 1912.

106. The *Kalyani* [Magura] of the 17th July in the course of an article written in metaphorical and figurative language, refers to the national awakening which came upon Bengal seven years ago, to the outbreak of license which followed, and finally to the state of national quiescence and lethargy which has supervened. Continuing the paper exhorts its countrymen to shake off this state of lethargy and, in full realization of the greatness of their motherland, to devote themselves wholeheartedly to patriotic service.

KALYANI,
July 17th, 1912.

107. A correspondent to the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipore] of the 27th July thanks Mr. Roe, Sessions Judge Patna, for kindly giving the permission, withheld since Mr. Carnduff's transfer, for holding the old Somwari fair in the court premises of Bankipore.

BIHAR BANDHU,
July 27th, 1912.

108. Referring to the endeavours made by the parties of young men among the Hindus and Muhammadans to bring about unity between the two races, the *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 26th July says that it does not find their words consistent with their deeds. Religion has become a thing of ideal importance in India and any falling off from it, is almost impossible. The paper, after comparing the religious standards of the Hindus and the Muhammadans, points out that while the former have not done away with any of their religious observances, such as going on pilgrimage to Jagannath, Hardwar, Benares and other places, worshipping idols in temples, etc., the latter have little regard for their Holy *Koran* and its commandments and little faith in what is told in them. They follow Khaja Gholam-us-Saqlain, Vakil, and others who permit what is prohibited in the *Koran*, such as drinking wine, using bacon, accepting interest on money, etc. The paper is therefore of opinion that the Hindus are not so foolish as to ignore the interest of their own community or their religion, while the Muhammadans are day by day going down to degradation and receding from their faith.

STAR OF INDIA,
July 26th, 1912.

As the rumour goes, continues the paper, the Hon'ble Mr. Mazhar-ul-Huq and Hon'ble Mr. Sachchidanand Sinha have so far succeeded in bringing about unity between the two communities, as the Hindus are going to vote for the former and the Muhammadans for the latter to represent them in the Legislative Council at the next election; but no unity is possible, it is afraid, until the Hindus begin to tolerate the sacrifice of cows by the Muhammadans as they do in the case of the Christians.

109. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 26th July urges upon political leaders in Eastern Bengal not to be animated by a spirit of jealousy towards their Western Bengal brethren. It is no good for them, for instance, to demand extravagant sums to be spent on the Dacca University as a compensation for the change in the political status of Dacca. For the money at the disposal of Government is limited and must be equitably distributed among all Provinces. If Eastern Bengal wants more than her proper share, there will be fresh taxation imposed either on Eastern Bengal

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
July 26th, 1912.

particularly or on Bengal generally. That will create discontent and will be unjust too. Eastern Bengal men must recognize also that retrenchment of expenditure, was one of the main objects which led to the modification of the Partition of 1905. And they must also see that the opposition to the exclusion of Eastern Bengal from the benefits of the Calcutta University with its splendid endowments and traditions, on the part of Western Bengal leaders, is honest and not inspired by any jealousy against Eastern Bengal. And similarly it is to be desired that the Behari leaders should find out the folly of setting up a new High Court at Patna, which can never equal the Calcutta High Court in judicial independence and legal knowledge.

MUHAMMADI,
July 26th, 1912.

110. Referring to Lord Carmichael's recent statement in reply to an address at Dacca that "Moslems want only justice and that they have a right to expect," the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 26th July writes:—

Moslems have never demanded special favour for themselves and never will; only they do not want to be kept out of the enjoyment of those rights from which they are now shut out, partially or wholly. In the educational sphere, in offices, in the Councils and the local self-governing bodies, Moslems do not yet enjoy more than a tenth of what they are rightfully entitled to. They want only what is justly due to them, no special favour. And they do not want to encroach on the rights of their neighbours.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
July 22nd, 1912.

111. So the hollow mystery about the Christians, writes the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] in its leader of the 31st July, headed as in the margin, has at last been unveiled.

A biography of Christ has recently been discovered which has created a commotion in the Christian world. The followers of Christ so far claimed him to be the Son of God, born of Virgin Mary. But a Russian who has discovered facts relating to Christ's parentage and his teachers has razed their imaginative edifice to the ground. This biography, which is a crushing blow to the vanity of the Christians, relates that Jesus in the fourteenth year of his age lived among the Aryas at Puri, Rajagriha and Kashi and studied the Vedas. Seeing that the discovery of his teachers is going to humiliate (literally, cut the nose of) the Christians, they question its genuineness for they would not like the idea of their God's Son being called a disciple of the Hindus.

The paper relates here the story of the Russian traveller Notovitch who visited Tibet seven years ago, and was very kindly received by the Lamas. In course of conversation he discovered that they were in possession of facts relating to the life of Jesus Christ and that there was a copy of his biography in manuscript at a monastery in Ladakh. He proceeded in quest of the valuable manuscript and with great difficulty could see it at Himis (?).

The account of the life of Jesus as given in this biography has been narrated by the journal briefly as follows:—

Christ was an Israelite and was born of humble parents. At the age of thirteen he deserted his home and went to Sindh with a party of merchants. He spent his fourteenth year among the Aryas visiting Puri, Rajagriha and Kashi (Benares) and learning the Vedas, which however he did not believe to be divine and subsequently left the company of the Brahmans. To save himself from the white priests at—? who threatened to kill him, he took refuge with the Buddhists and learnt Pali from them, as well as assimilated the teachings of Gautama Budha. Then he proceeded westward preaching against idol-worship. Reaching Persia he began to criticise the Zoroastrian religion but being much molested by the necromancers there, left the country very soon. He was twenty-nine when he reached Judah. Here he became so popular by his religious preaching that Pontius Pilate was afraid of him and placed him for trial before a jury composed of priests and learned men. He was declared not guilty and continued his sermons. But persistent reports of his creating excitement among the people supplied by the detectives to Pilate led to the re-arrest of Jesus. This time false witnesses were procured, and though the judges, the priests and learned men, left the court-room saying that they would not be a party to the punishment of an innocent man, Jesus was crucified by the order of the Governor.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 20th, 1912.112. Referring to the visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Orissa, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th

A representation to His Honour. July observes that on no occasion, during the past forty-eight years, was the public mind so agitated with mixed feelings of hope and fear as it is on the present occasion, for the people of Orissa do not know what the political separation of Bihar and Orissa from Bengal means, so far as Orissa is concerned. "The object of the change, as announced in the despatches, published for the information of the people, is to give the Hindi-speaking people a separate administration. Does it mean that Orissa is to be converted into a Hindi-speaking tract? This is not an unlikely calamity, judging from the experience of the Uriya race." In support of these remarks, the editor refers to the language question which was raised a few years ago in Sambalpur, and which resulted in the transfer of the Sambalpur district to Orissa, to the same question which is rousing a keen interest in Madras at the present moment, and to the first step which the Calcutta University has taken to ultimately ignore the claims of Uriya to recognition in the University as one of the Sanskritic languages, by removing the only one Uriya-knowing man from the list of its Senators." Then, the editor goes on to question:—"What part is Orissa to play in the constitution of a separate administration for the Hindi-speaking people, or what is to be made of Orissa in this political architecture? Is Orissa to play a part or is simply a use to be made of her?" "These and questions of a similar nature," observes the editor, "exercise the mind of thoughtful men."

But in spite of all this the editor accords to His Honour a cordial welcome, and observes that it is the welcome of loyal Orissa—Orissa, which, when the British first came to the province, placed in their hands the temple of Jagannath and which remained loyal to the British Crown in troublous times including the recent unrest. The editor also avails himself of this opportunity of contrasting the genuine and uniform loyalty of the people of Orissa, who do not possess the spirit of public agitation, and have not yet learnt the importance their rulers attach to agitation, with the loyalty which can be bought, whether the price be an honour or a boon conferred in compliance with the demands of violent agitation.

Then the editor gives a short account of the association of the Bayley family with the British Administration of India, and holds that no Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal possessed such varied experience or earned laurels by the exercise of versatile intellect applied to diverse fields of administration as does Sir Charles Bayley. He observes that "the Tributary and Feudatory Chiefs of Orissa have ample reason to congratulate themselves on having a Governor who has practical experience of the limits of interference by the paramount power in the administration of Native States."

Then, after referring to the violent agitation in Orissa which took place in 1887 regarding a civil suit which was instituted by Government to improve the management of affairs of the Temple of Jagannath and which resulted in the introduction of a scheme of management which has given satisfaction alike to the pilgrims and Government officials and which has continued up to the present day, the editor refers to the difficulties which have quite recently arisen regarding the management of the said Temple, and hopes that the importance of this question and the association of Sir Stuart Bayley's name with the existing management will induce His Honour during his stay in Orissa to give his personal attention to the matter.

The editor concludes his article with the following observations:—

"We wish His Honour and Lady Bayley a pleasant time of it during their stay in Orissa, and we do sincerely hope the people will do all they can to give them what may be called pleasant recollections of their first visit to Cuttack."

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 20th, 1912.

113. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th July reports that a monster meeting of the representatives of the people of Orissa, invited from different places in the mufassal, was held at the Cuttack Town Library Hall at 4 P.M. on Sunday, the 14th instant, under the presidency of Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E.

A new political association formed at Cuttack.

After the President explained to the representatives the aims and objects of the meeting and the responsibilities of the representatives, the association was named the "Association of the representatives of the people." Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., was appointed its Secretary and Treasurer; Babus Gopabandhu Das, Nilkantha Das and Revati Kanta Ghose, Assistant Secretaries. It was resolved to present an address of welcome to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa. Five preachers were appointed, and the names of the representatives assembled were taken down. Then the meeting dispersed at 6-30 p.m. The editor hears that a detailed account of the proceedings of this meeting will be printed and distributed to the representatives, and wishes the Association every success.

UTKALDIPIKA,
July 20th, 1912.

114. Referring to the sanction recently accorded by the Secretary of State for India to the creation of certain new appointments for the improvement of sanitation of this country, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 20th July observes that actual work for the improvement of sanitation is at present more necessary than appointment of officers. As the increase of the number of inspecting officers in the Education Department has lately resulted in shortness of funds for the actual spread of education, so the increase in the number of Sanitary officers may lead to shortness of funds for carrying out sanitary measures for the good of the country. Cleansing of villages, provision for good drinking-water and supply of proper food-stuffs, are necessary for the improvement of the hygienic condition of the people. Milk is the chief food of this country, but owing to slaughter of cows and want of grazing grounds the bovine race is gradually declining, good milk is seldom found, ghee has doubled in price and cheese is hardly got. Abject poverty of the majority of population is also another cause of the insanitary condition of the country; and hence it behoves Government to find out means for the augmentation of the income of its subjects. In conclusion, the editor requests the Government to remedy the evil of appointing highly paid officers, who can do nothing more than offer bare advice to the people on matters of sanitation.

URIYA AND NAVA-
SAMVAD,
July 17th, 1912.

115. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 17th July welcomes His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa on the occasion of His Honour's visit to the town of Balasore, and lays before His Honour the following matters for His Honour's consideration and necessary action:—

- (1) There is a crying need for good drinking water in the Balasore town. An elaborate scheme for supply of good drinking-water is urgently required.
- (2) Rain-water is quite insufficient for carrying out agricultural operations in the Balasore district. Consequently, irrigation canals need be dug out to remedy the evil.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 3rd August 1912.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 3rd August 1912.

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.**

[As it stood on 1st January 1912.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4*	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
5	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
6	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
7	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Noreish Chandra Sarbadhikari and Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,000
8	"Musalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Rayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon.), age 30 years.	2,500
12	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Pryo Nath Sen	.. ..
13	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....

* Has not been published for the last six months, and most probably it will not be published again.

PART II OF THE WEEKLY REPORT.

Additions to, and alterations in, the List of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st June 1912.

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
New	"Worlds Messenger" ...	No. 18, Kali Prasad Chakraborty's Street.	Monthly (English).	Raghu Probir Mitra (Hindu), age 22 years.	100 copies.
Do.	"Current Indian Cases" (a law paper).	No. 1-1, College Square, East.	Monthly (English).	Monindra Nath Mitter and Brothers (Kayastha), age 32 years.	Ditto.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1264. With reference to the dakaities which have recently taken place in East Bengal, the *Telegraph* writes as follows:—

Dakaities in East Bengal.

"True, anarchy and unrest have disappeared from the face of the country. But it cannot be denied that crime—heinous, serious crime—is on the increase. Within a month there have been three serious dakaities in the Eastern districts. The last, again, was so very impudent as to have occurred within the jurisdiction of the Barisal Kotwali thana, that is to say in the suburbs of the town. The dakaites, again, were so very bold as to fire at the neighbours who came to the rescue of the victim and wounded two of them. This is a state of things hardly complimentary either to the police or the British Government. The occupation of the political police may be gone, but that of the civil or ordinary police is all the greater in the presence of such crimes. Unfortunately in very few, if any, such cases have the police been so far successful; and their failure is a subject which should engage the very best and earliest attention of the Government. The victims who are mulcted in such large sums or are maltreated can never be in sympathy with the marauders, as is the stock argument of the unsuccessful police. It will not, therefore, do merely to say that they receive no co-operation from the public. When the police force is maintained for the protection of life and property, their failure to do so should vote their inefficiency, and earn for them the censure of the Government. For what is the C. I. D. maintained if they cannot detect dakaities, murders, and robberies? We hope Lord Carmichael will kindly look at the question from this common-sense point of view and apply himself closely to effect an improvement in the situation."

TELEGRAPH.
27th July 1912.

1265. Reverting to the Motihari police torture case, the *Amrita Bazar*

The Motihari police torture case.

Patrika observes that it is only another instance to show that, in spite of the best efforts of the Government, such cases must crop up not infrequently so long as the rank and file of the police are illiterate and ill-paid. It has also brought to light another well-known fact, namely, how the police form a happy family, so much so, that when one of its members is in difficulty, others come to his rescue. In the case under notice the Judge severely commented on the evidence of Abdul Rahman, Police Inspector, and observed that he had made interpolations in the first information after obtaining the signature of the informant to shield the accused! The paper trusts the Judge's strictures will attract the notice of the Bihar Government to the conduct of the police officer.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st July 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

1266. Referring to the remark of the *Times* that a most searching enquiry should be made into the causes leading to the miscarriage of justice in the Mymensingh case, and the subsequent inordinate delays, the *Bengalee* writes:—

The *Times* and the Mymensingh case.

"The delays in a certain class of cases are a real evil; the 'miscarriage of justice' is largely a question of point of view, besides being a matter in regard to which there is clear difference of opinion among competent critics. For the rest, as we have already said, we are not opposed to an enquiry, if it is properly held. But it must be properly held, if it is to be of any value."

BENGALIAN,
30th July 1912.

(c)—Jails.

1267. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* brings to notice that according to the last Prison Administration Report of Burma, out of 32 cases of whipping in Rangoon Jail, 10

The Rangoon Jail.

were ordered for eating flour and raw rice. It is believed that the rice is swallowed by the culprit in the hope that he will be sent to hospital, and the

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st July 1912.

authorities feel themselves bound to inflict punishment, as they think it is impossible to stop the practice without flogging. There was a time, the journal goes on, when, if a cooly succumbed to the brutal treatment of a planter, the plea put forth was that the deceased had died to spite the latter! Similarly in the Burma case, convicts brought diseases, and what is worse, the punishment of flogging on themselves, in order to avoid hard labour in jail by eating raw rice! The common-sense explanation of such conduct on their part, perhaps, is that they are not well-fed, and hence they ate rice to satisfy the cravings of hunger. One wonders that the pitiable condition of the unfortunate men, instead of exciting the compassion of the jail authorities, should call forth their ire. Flogging is a brutal punishment and should never be resorted to. A strict supervision over the diet in Burma jails is also urgently needed.

(d)—Education.

MUSALMAN,
26th July 1912.

1268. In the course of a long article under the headline "Facilities for Muhammadan education," the *Mussalman* asserts that if the Muhammadans wanted even a little more than their due share of the attention of the Government, that too would not be, under the present circumstances of their community, an improper demand on their part, but unfortunately they have not been favoured—if the word "favoured" can at all be used in this connection—with even their due and legitimate share. Lord Carmichael has, by his Dacca speech, inspired a hope in the Muhammadan community, and may it not be expected that the urgent demand of the Mussalmans for more hostel accommodation in Calcutta will be promptly satisfied and thus a great obstacle to their education removed?

BENGALIAN,
27th July 1912.

1269. With reference to the information that Pandit Prabhu Datta Sastri, of Lahore, has been appointed to the Indian Educational Service as Professor of Philosophy, Presidency College, Calcutta, the *Bengalee* is glad that in at least one instance justice has at length been done to Indian merit. The paper hopes that we are at the beginning of a new era to be marked by a more adequate recognition of indigenous worth than what has been extended to it so far. Nothing, let it be borne in mind, is so calculated to have a depressing effect upon a people as the consciousness that it is not to have adequate opportunities of making the best of the powers with which God has endowed it.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th July 1912.

1270. The *Indian Mirror* is informed that there is a proposal before the Government to do away with that prosperous and flourishing institution the Hooghly College. It is in a most inchoate form, but none the less it has assumed a tangible shape. Such a measure is sure to sound the death-knell of high education in the district of Hooghly—a district which claims the distinction of having proportionally the largest number of educated men in India. The paper is sure it will meet with the most stubborn opposition from all classes of the people and will never meet with the approval of the Governor, who is a great patron of learning and whose sympathy for high education is so well known.

INDIAN MIRROR,
30th July 1912.

1271. On the same subject, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—"Only two years ago, the fiat went forth for the abolition of the Krishnagar College, and it was only when a great hue-and-cry was raised in the press that the Government was obliged to appoint a Committee to go into the whole question and to advise whether the abolition or the retention of the Krishnagar College was desirable. We do not know what view was favoured by the Committee, for its report did not see the light of day; but meanwhile the Krishnagar College lives in spite of, we are constrained to say, the studied neglect of the Education Department, which is altogether oblivious of the high position the college once occupied in the educational scheme of this province. In the present instance, we think it is eminently desirable that public opinion should pronounce itself early against any contemplated blow at the integrity of the Hooghly College. The late Government in East Bengal, whatever its other defects, evinced the greatest interest in education, and its enthusiasm over this matter has, we

believe, caught on with the present Government of the new Presidency.

The time cannot surely come for the Government to retire from the field of education, and signs are not wanting to show that the Government is determined to turn its back upon the ill-advised policy recommended by the first Education Commission to withdraw in course of time from the work of education, leaving it in private hands. . . . We trust, therefore, that whatever proposal may have proceeded from any quarter to do away with the Hooghly College, will receive summary dismissal at the hands of the Government of Bengal, which, we know, is deeply solicitous for the improvement of education. The Government must have, at least, one model college in every administrative division—we were going to say, in every important district—and we wish that the importance of this fact could be fully brought home to the Education Department."

1272. Commenting on the unreasonable restriction of local jurisdiction imposed upon the proposed Hindu and Moslem

The Hindu and Moslem Universities.

Universities by the Government of India, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"The recent further

announcement from the Government, that this decision which has been arrived at by the Secretary of State must be considered as final, is evidently intended to gag any protests of a loud or pronounced nature. In this connection we may suggest for the consideration of those of Bengal who may think of withdrawing their intended contributions to the Benares University in view of the recent developments, that they may not do better than divert contributions to the National College at Calcutta. It is, as every one knows, in urgent need of funds and is simply struggling between starvation and self-preservation, and no contributions will be more opportune or patriotic than any that will be made at this psychological moment and for such a noble purpose."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st August 1912.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

1273. With reference to the remark of the *Statesman* that the resources

Local bodies and their funds.

of local bodies are insufficient to enable them to meet modern standards of administration, the

Bengalee observes:—"It is forgotten that local bodies are deprived of sources of revenue which ought legitimately to belong to them. The proceeds of ferries are partly provincialized. The whole of these proceeds, we think, ought to be made over to the local bodies within whose jurisdiction the ferries lie. Then there is the road-cess, which is altogether a local tax and which we think ought to be devoted in part at least to the sanitary improvement of the villages which pay the tax. The chaukidari tax, now goes to defray the expenses of the village police. The maintenance of the village police ought to be a charge upon the provincial revenues; and the proceeds of local taxation ought to be relieved of this expenditure and made available for the most urgent local wants. No want is, indeed, more pressing than sanitation. And we appeal to the Government to accept the suggestion which we have made and introduce, if need be, the necessary changes in the law. . . . But so long as the chaukidari tax is not dealt with in the way we have suggested, we do not see how it is possible to equip the local bodies for the most urgent sanitary needs except by the process of subvention. The millennium is far off, and in the meantime we have to do the best we can in the difficult situation in which we find ourselves and with the imperfect means at our disposal. The order of the universe is severe both in public as well as in private concerns, and it is a long and strenuous struggle in which the end is the surmounting of difficulties and the making of the best of a bad situation."

BENGALUR,
26th July 1912.

1274. In the same connection the *Bengalee* continues as follows:—"If

Ibid.

the Government of India did not appropriate so large a portion of what ought properly to be pro-

vincial revenues, the Provincial Government would not be under the necessity of appropriating revenues which ought to belong to the local bodies. That does not mean, however, that the Provincial Government can justly claim the

BENGALUR,
26th July 1912.

ferry receipts or other similar revenues. Let them exercise their influence with the Government of India and persuade it to part with the revenues which ought to be theirs, and let them, in their turn, hand over the ferry receipts and other revenues, which are local rather than provincial, to the local bodies. As we said the other day, the great difficulty in the way of the local bodies fulfilling their duties in the matter of sanitation and education is their lack of resources."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
31st July 1912.

1275. The *Hindoo Patriot* learns from its Jessore correspondent that steeping of jute has become very common in the Bhairub, Kopotak, Ichamutty and some of the

Steeping of jute.

other rivers in the district. Its correspondent says that villages situated on both banks of these rivers suffer from malaria, cholera and other diseases. The paper need hardly say that this obnoxious practice should be put down with a high hand. It is glad to learn that the District Board of Jessore has been roused from its apathy, and has reserved some portion of the rivers with a view to prevent pollution of water therein. It trusts similar action will be taken by the District Board of Khulna to reserve such portions of the rivers as flow within their jurisdiction.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st August 1912.

1276. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that the petition of the inhabitants of the Jhalakati subdivision (district Bakarganj) to His Excellency the Governor,

The Jhalakati Municipality.

praying for the right of franchise to their Municipality, is one that certainly deserves the most sympathetic consideration:—"The Municipality of Jhalakati is an old one, having been created so far back as 1875, even prior to the creation of the Barisal Municipality, though the elective system has not yet been extended to it. The memorialists have shown by facts and figures that with the increased income of the Municipality, the steady growth of education and public spirit, population and material prosperity, their town is fully ripe for the boon of local self-government. As an ardent friend of the system of local self-government, His Excellency will no doubt show every consideration to their just prayer."

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th July 1912.

1277. "A Voice from East Bengal" writes to the *Indian Mirror*, requesting His Excellency the Governor to consider the question of improving the water communication of East Bengal. Jessore, Faridpur, Khulna, Barisal,

Railways versus waterways in East Bengal.

Noakhali, Comilla, Dacca, and Mymensingh are intersected by large rivers and by small rivers without number. When there are heavy rains in Bihar and higher up and in Assam and Surma Valley, all these districts form a single sheet of water with patches of high lands here and there. Extension of railway has become full of risk, as the railways may be washed away. If the railway be made strong by making it two or three times wider than is the case in the United Provinces, all drainage will be stopped and the whole country will for weeks, nay months, be laid under water. More railway in East Bengal means more obstruction to drainage. Malaria will be the natural result of this obstruction to drainage. One cause why Jessore and Faridpur are becoming more malarious every year is the obstruction of drainage. The volume of fresh water that used to keep the rivers and rivulets open has been reduced by the railway, and has resulted in the filling up of rivers, *khals* and *nullahs*, making boat communication very difficult all the year round.

BENGALER,
28th July 1912.

1278. In the course of a letter to the *Bengalee* on the improvement of water-courses in Bengal, "A. K. Lahiri" (mukhtear)

Improvement of water-courses in Bengal.

writes:—"Though on the average the total population of the Faridpur district is increasing that of the Goalundo subdivision is slowly and steadily decreasing, and this ought to draw the attention of the Government of His Excellency Lord Carmichael to this subdivision while there is still time. The impending calamity can be averted in the following ways:—(1) By removing the silt at the mouth of the Chandana. (2) By the opening of a feeder railway from Pangsa to Madhukhati in the interior. The heavy death-rate in Baliakandi is due to the fact of its

being an out-of-the-way place, where neither skilled medical advice nor proper medicines are available. Moreover, the railway would add to the population through increased facilities for trade; also by generally improving the standard of living. (3) By creating a new subdivision, with one Deputy Magistrate and one Munsif on the west bank of the Chandana. There will be very little increase in expenditure, as the rest of the Goalundo subdivision can then easily manage its affairs with one executive officer and one Munsif, instead of two, which is the present number. This new subdivision, if located at a central place between Pangsa and Baliakandi thanas, should, besides reducing the cost of litigation, be of much help to Government in improving the sanitary condition of this tract. Moreover, the lighter work in the hands of the officers at Goalundo would enable them to carry out the necessary improvements at Goalundo."

1279. The *Herald* observes that while there is great joy among the people of Noakhali at the prospect of the visit of Lord Carmichael to their town, yet a source of great

A danger to Noakhali.

danger is agitating the minds of its inhabitants and casting a gloom on all. A very big river, the lowest portion of the great Meghna, flowed a mile away from the town 176 years back. The stream afterwards receded so much that in 1862 a distance of 9 miles intervened between it and the town. The river has again been approaching towards Noakhali since 1867. By the year 1907 it was only 2 miles away, and now the distance is hardly a mile. There are great misgivings in the minds of the people that the town will be soon washed away. Probably the late Government was not of opinion that the river was likely after all to destroy the town. But this would indicate an ignorance of the shifting nature of the water-courses of the deltaic portion of Bengal. For the courses of such rivers as the Padma and the Megna to a smaller extent, not to say of the many other rivers of lesser magnitude, are always shifting, and the list of places devoured up by Bengal rivers is not very small. The Padma has been known to break up a mile of the country within a day. The question before the present Government is to decide whether to build a fresh town or provide protective works.

HERALD,
29th July 1912.

1280. The *Bengales* relates an incident which took place at Dum-Dum Cantonment station, in which a number of

Railway complaints.

European soldiers are said to have entered a compartment reserved for females. It remarks that in all the cases which it has been its misfortune to draw attention to, there has been one common factor, namely, the powerlessness of the station staff to afford that protection to the weak, particularly to women, which it is their clear duty to give. Obviously the remedy for this state of things lies only in strengthening the station staff and placing them in a position to do their duty fearlessly. The matter is one which deserves the immediate attention of the Railway Board, because it is not merely from stations on the E. B. S. Railway but from E. I. Railway stations too that similar incidents have been reported.

BENGALIS,
30th July 1912.

1281. The *Indian Mirror* brings to notice that it has been receiving repeated complaints regarding the inconvenience caused to the public by the discontinuance of

Ibid.

some three or four trains and the alteration in the timings of others on the Naihati Branch line. "This is an important line, connecting as it does two big junction stations, viz., Bandel on the E. I. Railway and Naihati on the E. B. S. Railway, and any arrangement in the timings likely to cause any inconvenience to the passengers shifting from one line to the other requires attention. We are told that the last train runs on the line about 9 P.M. That is too early an hour for the cessation of train service on such an important line. The consequence is that passengers have to pass their nights either at Naihati or Bandel, exposed to the inclemencies of the weather and left to the tender mercies of the light-fingered gentry. The condition of passengers having females with them can better be imagined than described. Railways exist for the convenience of passengers, and any alteration made in the timings of trains must conduce to that end. In this particular instance there was obviously no necessity for the change as nobody demanded it, and past timings worked to the satisfaction of all concerned. We learn that the Hooghly People's Association have submitted a memorial to the authorities on the subject. We trust the railway authorities would look into the matter at once and set matters right."

INDIAN MIRROR,
31st July 1912.

(h)—General.

HERALD,
24th July 1912.

1282. The *Herald* brings to notice that the suggestion of joining Tangail to the district of Dacca has met with the approval of many prominent men at least of that subdivision. It hopes His Excellency Lord Carmichael will give serious consideration to the proposal, and not only does that point to a line of least resistance, but it finds a solution of the partition question to the satisfaction of all the parties. The journal hopes both on the Government side and on that of the non-officials full consideration will be given to the practicability of the suggestion.

MUSALMAN,
26th July 1912.

1283. The *Mussalman* brings to notice that the members of the Provincial Executive Service, at any rate a section of them, who had been serving in Bengal before the modification of the partition and who have been retained in the Presidency of Bengal after the changes, have been placed at a great disadvantage so far as their promotion and future prospects are concerned. The journal trusts that the Government of Bengal will bestow its serious thought on this genuine grievance of a most important section of its servants and remedy it at an early date.

BENGALUR,
26th July 1912.

1284. "Interested" writes to the *Bengalee*, bringing to notice the visit paid by Mr. Spooner, Superintendent of Archaeology, and Mr. Dey, the District Magistrate, to the Library and Museum of the Rangpur *Sahitya Parishad*:—"It is guessed from the remarks passed by Mr. Spooner that the authorities have a mind to remove all local collections of value to the Indian Museum. But to keep the local enthusiasm alive we always advocate the principle of establishing small local museums throughout the country, under the direct supervision of the Department of Archaeology. Any move towards taking away things found out by local efforts will not be greeted. In the joint address of welcome of both the Hindus and Muhammadans presented in 1910 to Sir Lancelot Hare of Eastern Bengal and Assam a special prayer was embodied to preserve somewhere in the locality as souvenirs of the past the five beautiful brass images of Vishnu found out by a cultivator in the zamindari of the Tajhat Raj. The Raja himself volunteers to erect a suitable shrine for them at his own cost. We do not know as yet what decision the Government has arrived at regarding the disposal of these images. We hope that the Government will give the public every chance of discussion before arriving at any conclusion."

HERALD,
26th July 1912.

1285. Commenting on the results of the Conference that was held at Mymensingh to discuss the proposed partition of the district, the *Herald* writes that though there was a small minority of opposers, it is sure the Governor must have fully understood that opinions of all classes of people were against the measure. To this hard logic of facts it does not wish to add any more argument, fully confident that the decision of Lord Carmichael will be according to the only conclusion pointed out.

BENGALUR,
27th July 1912.

1286. On the same subject, the *Bengalee* writes:—"A perusal of the proceedings of the Conference can, indeed, leave no doubt that the weight of opinion and of argument was entirely against the proposed partition, though in some cases alternative proposals were suggested on the assumption that the authorities were bent upon some kind of partition. It is refreshing to turn from the speeches of some of the Muhammadan gentlemen who supported the partition to the frank and statesmanlike declaration made by His Excellency at Jamalpur, that he did not intend to come to any hasty conclusion and that in any case he would again take the people into his confidence before any final decision was arrived at. The declaration is one on which we have no hesitation in congratulating His Excellency."

AMRITA PAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th July 1912.

1287. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that if the Government of India, before creating the "odds and ends" province and tacking on poor Orissa as an appanage to Bihar, had only taken the trouble to consult a few recognised leaders of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, they would have been spared this embarrassing position. Fancy the Government thinks it has conferred a great boon on the Orissans by amalgamating them with the Biharis. But the former, anyhow, are still obtuse enough not to appreciate the magnitude of this boon! Indeed

they are so cross and perverse as to think that they have been, on the other hand, thrown out of the frying pan into the fire. In this connection, the journal refers to a strong rumour that is afloat in certain quarters, viz., that Orissa may yet be returned to Bengal. Of course it is a mere rumour without any foundation whatever. All the same, that would have been the justest thing for the Government to do. For, if the position of an ill-assorted man and wife is not a happy one, no less miserable is that of a people when yoked with another (more for the benefit of the latter than of themselves), not speaking the same language, and with quite different habits and customs. Indeed, the people of Orissa cannot be blamed if they smart under the idea that they exist more for Bihar than for their own province.

1288. In a letter to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, "S. G." makes the following suggestion:—"If the authorities do not see their way to unite Orissa with Bengal, let it be a

Bihar and Orissa.

new province with Gondsthan in the Central Provinces and the Uriya-speaking districts of the Madras Presidency. Let Berar and the Marathi-speaking portion of the Central Provinces remain in the Bombay Presidency. Some of its northern districts may go to the United Provinces, from which a division or two will be given to the new province of Bihar (and Chota Nagpur). In that case the Orissa aspiration will be satisfied, and it will not be overshadowed by the Biharis or Bengalis. However, we are very keen about our severed Bengali-speaking districts. We want them. Let the Bengali public (leaders) now definitely express we want these tracts first and desire also Orissa."

1289. The *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"The appointment of Lord Islington,

The Public Services Commission

better known as Sir John Dickson Poynder, as President of the forthcoming Public Services Commission, cabled by Reuter, is not one that will meet

with the approval of the public in India. There is nothing, in fact, to show that he knows anything much about India. . . . Considering that the Public Services Commission to be held is one of the most important that has sat for years past, that the needs and aspirations of the people of India have taken a wider outlook in the course of the last few years, and that a new India is springing up whose wants cannot be easily satisfied, it might have been supposed that some one well versed in India affairs, or having something of a training in India, would have been delegated to do the responsible duties of thoroughly examining the condition of the Public Services and submitting a report that would form a valuable basis upon which the Government would be able to act in the best interests of the people of India. This, however, does not seem to have been done. So that the result of the labours of the Commission is not at the most promising."

1290. Commenting on the same subject, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that India can no longer bear the burden of maintaining a huge number of highly paid European

Ibid.

officers, many of whom have very little work to do, and unless cheaper qualified Indian talent is more largely employed, the Government may be reduced to the position of a bankrupt.

1291. On this subject the *Bengalee* writes:—"It is the supposed necessity of maintaining a minimum of European officers in higher pos's which is the chief argument in favour

Ibid.

of the virtual exclusion of our countrymen from the highest posts in many branches of the Public Service. The argument has no value, because the ground on which it is based is fictitious. There is absolutely no reason why a minimum of European officers should be maintained in any department of the State. The Queen's Proclamation definitely declared that merit was to be the sole determining consideration in the matter of appointments to the Public Service. We take our stand upon that declaration, and demand that it should be given effect to in the fullest measure."

1292. As regards the *personnel* of the Royal Commission to examine certain matters in connection with the Civil Services

Ibid.

in India, the *Bengalee* is of opinion that there will be a sense of disappointment that Indian opinion is not more adequately represented in a matter which concerns the Indian community more than any other. For instance, there is not a single representative of Bengal opinion on the

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th July 1912.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
27th June 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
27th July 1912.

BENGALIEE,
28th July 1912.

BENGALIEE,
1st August 1912.

Commission, and Bengal, as everybody knows, has, ever since 1876, taken a leading part in the controversy which has resulted in the appointment of the Commission.

COMRADE,
27th July 1912.

1293. Now that there is a fully manned Sanitary Department, the *Comrade* hopes that, apart from the executive appointments which will necessarily go to Indians, some of the

Sanitation.

administrative posts will also be given to them. An Indian is not always likely to be as firm an officer in condemning insanitary localities as a European, but he is far more likely to be able to persuade the people responsible for such insanitary conditions, to alter them. In other words, he may not have such a passion for sanitation as a European, but he is more likely to effect improvements smoothly. The earlier days of plague in Bombay and in the United Provinces bear testimony to the theoretical zeal of the "experts." There is, however, another aspect of the question. The European experts do not know what goes on within the four walls of Indian houses, and only an Indian is capable of discovering every insanitary nook and corner. The journal therefore hopes that the posts of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners would practically be reserved for qualified Indians.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th July 1912.

1294. A correspondent under the name "An Indian Observer" writes to the *Indian Mirror* as follows:—"Government have marked some districts for Indians and others for

Mymensingh.

Europeans. Mr. R. C. Dutt held charge of Barisal, Mymensingh, and Midnapore. These have now been all marked for Europeans. I think this classification is wrong altogether. Magistrates, whether Indian or European, should have small districts first, and the larger districts should be given them as they prove their worth. There are unworthy men amongst Europeans as there are amongst the Indians; great injustice is done to the large districts when any of these unworthy men, whether Indian or European, are put in charge of large districts.

"In the mufassal towns, the want of company is a serious matter, so where a Magistrate is a European, he is given a European Judge and Civil Surgeon to associate with. The same rule holds in the case where a district is placed under an Indian Magistrate. I have nothing to state against this rule so long as the habits and feelings of the Indian and Anglo-Indian officials are unluckily so different and uncompromising. But this is quite different from marking some districts for the European Magistrates and others for the Indian Magistrates. If the Europeans distribute justice in a fuller measure—we do not say that they do not—than the Indians, why should certain districts be permanently deprived of it?"

"If Mymensingh has been found too big for European Magistrates, why not try Indian Magistrates like Mr. J. N. Gupta, Mr. K. C. De, and Mr. S. C. Mukharji?"

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th July 1912

1295. With regard to the partition of Mymensingh, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* draws the following analogy:—"The

Ibid.

partition of a district is like the partition of a milch cow which belonged jointly to two Muhammadan brothers. Both must have the animal and its milk in their respective houses. They ran to the Kazi for advice and he decided that the cow should be cut longitudinally into two equal portions, from head to tail, and the brothers should divide them among themselves. Needless to say the result was that the animal gave no milk to any of them but died. The two newly-created districts will thus yield no nourishing food to their respective peoples as the undivided one did, but will only weaken them. Look at the condition of Jessore and Khulna which, as we said the other day, was a power in the land when it was one united district but, divided, each of them is now languishing. Mymensingh is now perhaps the most flourishing district in Bengal. Rest assured, as soon as it is divided, its Lukshmi (goddess of prosperity) will forsake it for ever."

INDIAN MIRROR,
31st July 1912.

1296. Under the *nom-de-plume* "An Inquirer," a correspondent to the *Indian Mirror* is led to enquire "Who are the people?" and "What is the popular opinion?"

Ibid.

"Has anybody, *bhadralogs* or *ashroffs*—taken the trouble to enquire whether the partition of Mymensingh will suit the convenience of the tradesmen and cultivators, weavers and sailors, who live outside the Sadar subdivision of

Mymensingh? When pleader after pleader stands up before the Governor and argues that the partition will be unpopular, that means that the pleader class of Mymensingh would find their pocket touched by such a procedure. How would the cultivators or tradesmen of Jamalpur or Tangail suffer if they get a District Judge at Jamalpur or Tangail to carry their appeals to, instead of Mymensingh. That is the practical question. No zamindar or pleader from the Raja of Sontosh or Anath Bandhu Guha downwards could bring himself down so low as to look at the partition from this point of view.

"In fact the *bhadralog* and the *ashroff* ignore the comforts and convenience of the trading and agricultural community, and ignore their existence except when collecting rents or taking fees.

"If the Governor were to rule that the divisional representatives of Municipalities would be elected by those who are electing the Municipal Commissioners, and that a divisional electorate consisting of three or four leading raiyats of each 'revenue' village instead of the District Board members or their delegates were to select their representative in the Provincial Council, both the *bhadralog* and the *ashroff* would remember the existence of the trading and agricultural and other industrial classes, whose comforts and happiness should be thought of by the Government before those of the progressive classes that can take good care of themselves."

1297. Commenting on the public meeting that was held at the Town Hall on the 26th instant, the *Bengalee* observes:—

The Town Hall meeting.

"It was a happy feature of the meeting that no less than three Muhammadan gentlemen of distinction took part in the meeting. The fact is significant of the growing solidarity of feeling between the two communities and the increasing desire on the part of both to be closely associated in the public life of the country. This view was urged with emphasis by Dr. Suhrawardy, who said that the time had now come when Hindus and Muhammadans must stand shoulder to shoulder for the protection of their common interests. Indeed, the signs are visible on all sides of the earnest desire of both Hindu and Muhammadan leaders to forget what differences there might have been in the past and to unite in the service of the country."

1298. In referring to the same meeting, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

Ibid.

"The decision of the Privy Council affects not only the Hindus and Mussalmans of Bengal, but all the communities in every part of this vast peninsula. . . . That being so, it is not a Bengal but an All-India question; and, in our humble opinion, public meetings should be held all over the country protesting against the dangerous nature of the decision, and asking Government to afford the necessary protection by legislation against its disastrous consequences. . . . Unless the decision is rendered nugatory by legislation, to talk of separating executive and judicial functions is merely a mockery. It is a cruel irony of fate that a promise of a much-needed reform wrested from the Executive Government after so much persistent agitation should be spoilt by a decision of the highest judicial tribunal. What we submit is that the leaders of all the provinces should make a common cause in preserving intact the position and status of the Calcutta High Court, both in their own interests as well as those of India as a whole. We think Bengal should take the lead in this matter, as it is directly and immediately affected by the proposed dismemberment of the Calcutta High Court. Our humble suggestion is that the leading men of Bengal should form a Committee and open communication with the leaders of other provinces, and start an All-India movement in this connection. The necessity for such an agitation is plain on the face of it. The High Court is the palladium of liberty in this country, and the executive is getting more and more powerful day by day. It is the High Court alone which can protect us from the unjust encroachments of the latter. The people in every province are thus vitally interested in making their respective High Courts stronger, so as to be able to cope successfully with the ever-increasing powers of the executive. Needless to say that the status of the High Courts, if reduced, means only loss of liberty and protection to the people. It is thus the paramount duty of the leaders in every province to take vigorous steps for averting a danger like the splitting up of the Calcutta High Court."

BENGALUR,
26th July 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th July 1912.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
28rd July 1912.

1299. Adverting to the discussion at the same meeting regarding the decision of the Privy Council in the Mymensingh case, the *Hindoo Patriot* observes:—"A satisfactory

The Town Hall meeting. solution of the question is urgently needed. Though we hope and trust the era of political unrest is over and will not return to trouble the rulers and the ruled, it is to the advantage of all concerned that the question should be solved once for all. And we are sure this legitimate demand of the people given expression to by one of their trusted leaders, who is not a 'professional agitator' and whose stake in the country adds especial weight to his words, will be carefully considered by the Government here and in England. Let the power to search houses be invested in those whose calm equanimity is not likely to be perturbed by executive influence."

BENGALIEE,
30th July 1912.

1300. With regard to the resolution at the recent Town Hall meeting relating to provincial autonomy, the *Bengalee* writes:—"To-day India is alert, awake and vigilant,

Ibid. penetrated through and through with the new-born spirit of self-consciousness. Her new life will revolt against inaction. We must begin the struggle early—indeed it has already begun. To Lord Crewe belongs the credit of having stimulated the new-born enthusiasm to action. Undoubtedly it is mainly with the pen and the tongue, supplemented, as occasion arises, by the necessary sacrifice that the battle has to be fought. These are the great weapons of modern constitutional warfare. Aided by them we have been eminently successful in the past, and aided by them we hope to triumph in the still more arduous struggle which lies before us and which, in the providence of God, will secure to our people the inestimable boon of self-government."

BENGALIEE,
31st July 1912.

1301. Commenting on the discussion in the recent Town Hall meeting regarding the Privy Council judgment, the *Bengalee* writes:—"A house-search is a proceeding most

Ibid. repugnant to Indian feeling. If an Englishman's house is his castle, the home of a Hindu is his temple, sanctified by his household gods; and both in the case of the Hindu and the Muhammadan, the presence of the ladies of the household imparts an added sanctity to the home. The search of houses ought, therefore, to be associated with conditions which should take note of the deep-seated public sentiment which surrounds the Indian home. To abolish a necessary safeguard in connection with a procedure so delicate as a house-search is an exceedingly questionable procedure, and if the law sanctions it, the law should be modified. Nor is this the only circumstance which has created a sense of wide-spread alarm. The decision of the Privy Council accords to the executive acts of the Magistrate the immunity to which only his judicial proceedings are entitled. This is a very serious matter, and converts the Magistrate of the district, if he so chooses, into a little despot, wielding more or less irresponsible authority. This is not fair to most Magistrates, nor to the people. The law must be changed. But the true remedy lies in the separation of judicial and executive functions. The whole country should take up this cry with one accord. It is a question which has been before the Government for a long time; but its solution has been deferred for one reason or other. The country must now press, with an emphasis and unanimity the significance of which cannot be mistaken, for a reform the necessity of which has been admitted by the Government."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
29th July 1912.

1302. With regard to the question of raising an Anglo-Indian army, the *Hindoo Patriot* remarks:—"If, as the Madras correspondent of *Capital* tells us, the proposal to form

Anglo-Indian regiments. an Anglo-Indian regiment is not warranted by the fighting capacity of that community, but has emanated from a desire to provide them anyhow, the scheme should be abandoned at once. Surely, public money ought not to be squandered in this way."

HINDOO PATRIOT,
30th July 1912.

1303. "No amount of jugglery with words," observes the *Hindoo Patriot*, "can blind us to the true intention that has actuated young Bihar to raise the parrot cry of parti-

Bihar. tion." "It was love of lucre that drew Biharis from the United Provinces and elsewhere to Bihar, there to compose a coterie and raise a cry of 'Bihar for the Biharis.' The backwardness of the province is well known. And Lord Macdonnell was fully justified in opposing the granting of an Executive

Council to a backward province. We hope the agitation for a separate High Court, got up by a handful of interested busy nobodies, will not blind the Government to its utter hollowness."

1304. "An oppressed" writes to the *Bengalee*, drawing the attention of

Income-tax assessment at Ramjibanpur.

His Excellency the Governor to the grievances of the people in the district of Midnapore. The Assessor of Income-tax went there recently, and having called all the shop-keepers with their account books to the Ramjibanpur police-station, decided their fate by merely turning over the pages of their account books. As a result, a great hue-and-cry was raised by the people who were assessed, as the assessment was most unsatisfactory from their point of view.

1305. In the course of a long article criticising the Bengal District Gazetteer,

Mr. Lyall's Administration Report.

the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"Our criticisms of all the objectionable passages have thus been accepted with becoming dignity and candour, excepting one. Perhaps this is an oversight, and we hope we have only to point it out to have it rectified. It occurs just a few lines after the characteristic passage against the Bar in Mr. Lyall's Administration Report and runs as follows:—

"There would be no stronger advocate of the separation of executive and judicial functions than myself, were any concurrent measures taken to enable the judiciary to hear and know what goes on in the villages and judge what comes before them more with a view to what justice demands and less with an ear to the quibble that any astute lawyer can put forward to defeat justice."

"We hope the Government will recognise the objectionable character of the above passage, especially in view of the words italicised, which, we submit, ought to be expunged. We had occasion, by the bye, to show the other day how the 'quibbling' and 'astuteness' referred to in the passage were not the sole monopoly of 'lawyers' alone."

1306. Commenting on Lord Crewe's speech in the House of Lords in

Self-government in India.

reply to certain observations made by Lord Inchcape, the *Bengalee* writes:—"It is difficult to write in restrained terms of a speech which tells a nation that its most fondly cherished aspirations are an idle dream which can never be realised. Such a speech, when made by an irresponsible politician, is usually treated with the contempt it deserves. When made by a statesman, wielding vast power for good and evil over the destinies of a nation, it cannot fail to give rise to a sense of indignation only a step removed from exasperation. Lord Crewe tells us in effect in his speech that India can never have self-government within the British Empire. Is His Lordship aware that this was precisely the language which a number of revolutionaries, whom Lord Curzon's monumental blunder of the partition of Bengal brought into existence, held, and by means of which they sought to turn the prevailing sense of dissatisfaction in the country into a feeling of active disloyalty to British rule? Those revolutionaries knew how deeply the aspiration for self government had sunk into the heart of the country, and they believed that if they could only convince their countrymen that self government was inconsistent with British rule, they would be able to rouse a feeling of wide-spread hostility to that rule. If they did not succeed in their object, it was because the moderate party turned a deaf ear to their teachings, and refused to believe that the great nation in whose keeping an all-wise Providence had for the time placed the destinies of this country would be so blind to the lessons of their own history and so forgetful of their mission as to seek to keep a nation of three hundred millions of highly intelligent human beings out of their birthright and in a state of perpetual tutelage. What are these moderate politicians to say to their countrymen now that the very dictum—the pernicious and mischievous dictum against which they have protested so long—has been laid down by the highest authority connected with the Government of India? They cannot possibly tell their countrymen that they must henceforth cherish other dreams. Not only are they themselves inalienably attached to this dream, but assuming that some of them were so false alike to themselves and the country as to preach the new doctrine, the

BENGAL, 30th July 1912.

AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, 31st July 1912.

BENGAL, 31st July 1912.

moment they did so would see the utter extinction of whatever influence they may now command. . . . His Lordship must be greatly mistaken if he imagines that his speech will divert India from the pursuit of the only goal which she can place before herself. There are thousands of men in New India—and their number is multiplying every day—who would rather die a hundred times than pursue any other goal. . . . It would be a bad day alike for England and India if the belief were to become wide-spread among our people that India cannot hope to have self-government under British rule. But if such a day were to come, it is Lord Crewe and men like him who would be wholly and solely responsible for a consummation so fraught with the most mischievous consequences, the magnitude of which no man can foresee."

BENGAL, 1st August 1913.

1307. The *Bengalee* continues on the same subject:—"Lord Crewe's recent

Self-government in India.

explanation has created a painful impression in the public mind of India. It is no exaggeration

to say, so unfortunate has been the effect of the speech, that it is calculated to undo the beneficent work of conciliation so happily inaugurated by the Royal visit. The people of India are told that at no time under British rule, no matter what progress they make or fitness they display for self-government, they can expect to have the boon of parliamentary institutions. In other words, their future must always remain dark; they must, while Europe and the world are moving forward, while the other Asiatic peoples in no way superior to them are marching forward in the race of progress, continue to be hewers of wood and drawers of water in the land of their birth. For increasing association of the people with the Government means nothing if their representatives are always to remain as mere advisers whose counsels may be set at naught at the will of the rulers of the land. Now we ask, is not the prospect of such permanent degradation calculated to create a sense of despair which is hundred times worse than discontent and to interfere with the development of that national self-respect which is the noblest moral equipment of a race? How can we stand up with heads erect before other civilized nations with this impress of permanent degradation indelibly marked on our brow? Lord Crewe's explanation involves the severest reflection upon British rule. . . . It means the failure of British rule as an instrument for the moral and political elevation of the people of India. It means that despite centuries of British rule the people of India will remain unfit for self-government. Are the people of India intellectually and morally so degraded that no education, no training can qualify them for self-government? Our great achievements in the past belie such an assumption. Are we then to understand that we have become so degraded under British rule that self-government for our people in their new environments would be out of the question? This would be an unmerited reflection upon British rule which we repudiate with indignation. . . . The despatch is there, and the more it is attempted to be tinkered with, the firmer will be our determination and the more strenuous will be our efforts to stand by it, to uphold it, and with the aid of the constitutional means at our disposal to give effect to its gracious message."

INDIAN MIRROR, 1st Aug. 1913.

1308. On the same subject, the *Indian Mirror* writes:—"Lord Crewe's

Ibid.

words are distinct and clear enough to be understood by everybody, and we wish the explanation

which they convey had been offered much earlier, so as to remove the conjectures and theories which Indian politicians have indulged in so long. Perhaps the explanation might have come from the Government of India itself. However, it is evident that the Government of India cannot be too careful in future in the matter of cultivating lucid draftsmanship. When such words as 'autonomy' and 'goal' find a prominent place in a sedate Government despatch, are the multitudes to blame if they construct all sorts of ideas and theories on them? The long and short of the matter would appear to be that the Government of India, in the exuberance of their enthusiasm for the Delhi scheme, paid no heed to the possible interpretation of words rather loosely used."

AMRITA BASAR PATRIKA, 1st Aug. 1913

1309. On the same subject, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* writes:—"Curiously

Ibid.

enough, those who are responsible for the maintenance of the British Indian Empire never

take any serious note of one terrible fact. India is no longer in a prosperous

condition: nay, it is now one of the poorest countries in the world. Famines and pestilence cannot lie: they prove conclusively that the resources of the country have been exhausted. The income-tax returns also tell the same tale. Fancy also that the Government of Bengal, said to be the richest province in India, cannot afford to pay even a few lakhs of rupees to supply good water to its people, millions of whom have to drink what is diluted sewage. The case of other Indian provinces is worse. Now so long as only birds of passage are entrusted with the task of administration, the situation must go from bad to worse, as it is actually doing. Therefore, those who have an abiding interest in the country should be vested with governing powers.

"At least the experiment is worth trying in the interests of the British people themselves. For, their Indian Empire cannot endure if its prosperity disappears and it becomes a burden on England. We need hardly say that there is not one sane Indian who wishes that the British should evacuate this country, leaving it to the sole management of his countrymen. What the Indians want is that they should be allowed to exercise some real control over the financial and civic affairs of their mother-country under British guidance, military and foreign matters resting entirely with the central Government. As a matter of fact, no people can exist for a long time if they are treated only as children and not allowed to govern their own country. The Indians are not an exception to this rule; so they are dying and not growing."

1310. With reference to an order of the District Magistrate prohibiting the running of a *Rath* car at Serampur during the Hindu festival of *Rath Jatra*, N. P. Biswall writes as follows in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—"We fail to understand how they could put forward the plea of loss of life in this particular case, although two bigger cars were allowed to be run in the locality. The car is a small one and the people were ready to take the responsibility—nay even to execute a bond to that effect, but still they were not allowed to run the car. Perhaps the Subdivisional Officer, being stationed at a great missionary centre, might have inbibed the holy idea of checking heathen festivals as far as that was possible! Anything it may be, the order passed by him is not only arbitrary but quite unprecedented, regard being had to the size of the car. We, however, understood that at first the Magistrate only wanted to refuse permission, but when it was pointed out to him that there was no such law under which he could do so, he took shelter under the aforesaid section of the Criminal Procedure Code, which shows how keen they were in the matter. The incident, I hope, will not be overlooked by the Hindu public. I trust Lord Carmichael will not allow such uncalled-for interference with our religion by these zealous officials." In this connection the journal comments:—"If what our correspondent has stated is even substantially correct, the Subdivisional Magistrate as well as the Deputy Superintendent of Police of Serampur certainly owes it to the public to explain such an unwarrantable interference with an important religious festival. Indeed, their conduct is simply inexplicable. How can a small *Rath* only 5 feet high 'cause loss of human life'? By their queer and unjustifiable order, the executive authorities have not only betrayed an ignorance of law and procedure, but a lamentable want of regard for the religious feelings of the people."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st Aug. 1912.

VI—MICELLANEOUS.

1311. The *Bengalee* brings to notice the rowdyism caused by some young Biharis at a meeting recently convened by a number of highly respected Bengali and Marwari gentlemen at Bhagalpur. The relations between the Bengalis and a section of Beharis are already sufficiently strained, and the paper fears tactics like these would only make things worse. It appeals to its countrymen in Bihar to set their faces against these dishonourable tactics, and to put them down with a firm hand by whomsoever they may be resorted to.

1312. The *Comrade* is informed that the Right Hon'ble Mr. Amir Ali and His Highness the Aga Khan are endeavouring to establish the Red Crescent Society as a permanent Islamic institution and would address the International Tribunal at the Hague

High Court meeting at Bhagalpur.

Red Crescent and Red Cross.

BENGALUR,
27th July 1912.

COMRADE,
27th July 1912.

to extend to it the same universal recognition which is extended to the Red Cross Societies of all Christendom. It seems to be incredible, in this advanced age, the journal goes on to say, but it is none the less true, that the European Powers, for all their vaunted civilisation, can yet tolerate the monstrosity of a Christian State refusing to recognise an institution which only differs from their own Society in that it has got the word crescent and not cross in its name. It earnestly appeals to the Muhammadan community and to all lovers of justice all over the world to organise a powerful agitation with a view to bring pressure to bear on the International Tribunal at the Hague. It confidently looks to the All-India Moslem League and to all of its provincial branches, unanimously to pass resolutions strongly supporting the two great leaders of the Indian Mussalmans in their selfless endeavours in the cause of Islam.

HERALD,
29th July 1912.

1313. The Bajitpur correspondent of the *Herald* brings to notice that Mr. Probodh Chandra De, the Subdivisional Officer of Kishorganj, held a Durbar at Bajitpur and awarded Durbar medals.

He remarks that if the Durbar medals were awarded in recognition of the loyal services rendered for successfully organising and carrying out the last Coronation demonstration, then it is regretted that the names of those gentlemen who really organised the local Coronation celebrations, have not reached the authorities and their loyal and enthusiastic services remain unrecognised. It is not known what methods the authorities follow in bestowing their favours.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
30th July 1912.

1314. "Briton's love for freedom," writes the *Indian Empire*, "is proverbial. Whenever a dependent and conquered nation is found to be struggling to throw off the shackles from their feet, the English people always rush in to come to their rescue. When Garibaldi fought and gained Italian independence, the English became enthusiasts. At his death, there was mourning universal in the land. In cases of Hungary, Poland, Greece and even of Russia, the same spirit is visible on each occasion. But in the case of India?—Oh! that is another thing altogether."

J. S. WILSON,
Special Assistant.

OFFICE OF THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH,
9, ELYSIUM ROW,
The 3rd August 1912.